



Covington Dig Report 2023

Archaeological Evaluation

By Robert Wishart

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Site Code: COV GLB1 23

Receiving Body: Bottom Farm, Covington

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Summary

The Covington and Keyston History Group (CKHG) was established in 2022 to provide residents of both villages with a vehicle through which they could explore the history of their villages using a variety of methods, including archaeology. The group's first attempt at an archaeological dig had taken place in Keyston that year and proved to be a huge learning opportunity for all involved. We had planned to return to the same field(s) in Keyston for this year's dig but due to the weather the field(s) had not been harvested so we had to focus our attention elsewhere.

Back in 2014 there had been a major archaeological dig in Covington that covered most of the village. Magnetometry had been used over almost all of the village and test pits dug to examine what was there. Although the magnetometry had been applied to the field Glebe 1 in the north of the village only a couple of test pits had been dug in the area and nothing significant had been found. The archaeologists referred to the field as Roman Site N suggesting that there may be a Roman connection to the field, some areas had been dug in 2014- 2016.

As this field was available and the Magnetometry existed we decided to investigate what might be there. To enhance our knowledge of the field we borrowed a Resistivity Meter.

It was not long before we encountered our first problem, whilst setting up the grid we needed to find the same starting point used back in 2014, unfortunately the marker was no longer present and because the archaeologists had used a very sophisticated GPS system to assign location whereas the CKHG only had access to a simple Garmin GPS machine (which could be up to 5 meters out) we could not be sure of the exact location. We took our best guess and set up the grid based on the new marker. Unfortunately, we were approximately a meter out which had a significant impact on the test pits.

Using the Resistivity Meter also proved to be difficult, we were only able to obtain results relating to eight of the squares on the grid and although they suggested that there may be something worth investigating, they did not prove useful. We do not know if it was the machine that was faulty or we were not working it correctly.

Once again, the group found a significant amount of pottery but this time, we also found a lot of animal bones, both very good indications of habitation. In total we recovered 42 finds bags.

Introduction

Location and scope of work

Covington and Keyston are both small villages on the Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire borders. Covington has approximately 40 houses and 80 residents, whilst Keyston is slightly larger with approximately 70 houses and 200 residents. Both parishes have 12th/13th Century churches and benefit from having village halls. There are 3.7 miles between the two villages.

Geology and topography

Glebe 1 lies to the north of Covington on Mickle Hill Road that joins the two villages and sits opposite David Lockhart Machinery. The agricultural land is grade2 (very good) quality The soil is chalky boulder clay and has traditionally been used for arable agriculture mixed with some pastoral elements; subsoil is a clay and sand mixture.

Archaeological and historical background

The two villages have existed for a long time, each appears in the Domesday Book on its own accord and research suggests they were even older. In Keyston a Neolithic greenstone axe was found and is now stored in the British Museum¹ also Roman and Iron Age ditch enclosures have been identified. Whilst in Covington a Bronze Age tanged and barbed flint arrowhead² has reputedly been found, and previous archaeology has identified both Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval sites.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank T Brown & Son (Covington) Ltd and Richard Brown for letting us conduct the dig on their land. We are also indebted to the staff of Jigsaw for the provision of the Resistivity Meter, David Lockhart for digging out the trenches, Robert McLaren for setting up the grid, Martin and Jannine Petch for scanning the site and to everyone who took part in any or all events - excavation, refilling the test pits and trenches, pot washing, item identification. We could not have done this without you.

Thank you one and all.

¹ The Ancient Stone Implements, Weapons and Ornaments, of Great Britain by John Evans

² CAM-BA13D6

Aims and Methodology

The main objectives of this dig were:

- a. Investigate some of the anomalies highlighted by the 2014 Magnetometry
- b. Enhance the archaeological skills that were introduced in 2022
- c. Obtain an understanding of what had existed in Glebe 1 field

As already mentioned, locating the 2014 starting point proved tricky. The field was undulating and did not lend itself to either field walking or metal detection we therefore limited our investigation purely to digging.

It was planned that the resistivity meter would be used over the entire site, but the machine proved difficult to use and the results were disappointing. We did not have anyone with previous experience of the resistivity meter so we were relying on someone training themselves based on documentation and some remote resources.

The next phase was to dig some 1m square test pits based on locations identified by the magnetometry and resistivity meter results. It soon became clear that we had not hit upon any of the key features so we decided to try and find them by creating three trenches using a digger. One of which was an extension of test pit 3 the others were based on the magnetometry results. Once we found the features, we were able to ascertain that the starting point for the grid was approximately one meter out.

The Covington and Keyston History Group took out insurance to cover all archaeological activities by its members and guests on land owned by a group member. It was a condition of the insurance that no pit would be more than 1 metre deep.

All finds were carefully placed in labelled bags which were washed at a later date. Before pits & trenches were closed section drawings were produced. Archaeological contexts and finds were recorded throughout.

The following system of recording was used:

Site Code:	COV GLB1 23
Test pit number:	TP1, TP2, etc
Trench number:	Trench 1, Trench 2, Trench 3
Location subtext:	Eastern End, Western End, Northern End etc
Context number:	101,102,103 etc

The following documents were completed: Test Pit Master List, Context Record Master List, Context Recording Sheet for each context, Section drawings of each Pit, Trench, Extension, Photograph of each Pit.

Results and Interpretation

Introduction

As this was only the group's second attempt at archaeology, we are still learning and gaining experience particularly in identifying finds. Some members of the CHG had been involved in previous digs, and had a little more experience but we all felt we are still learning. In this aim, the dig was a resounding success, the group has learnt a host of new skills including how to deal with animal bones, the advantages of starting with a trench rather than a test pit, pottery and bone identification, all of which will be useful in any future digs.

Although it became nothing more than a guide. The grid was set out as forty squares each of twenty square metres, the northern edge of the grid was assigned using the letters A-H and the eastern edge was given the numbers 1-5.

Field Walking / Metal Detection

Glebe 1 had been planted with a tall grass crop (creeping red fescue) that diagonally crossed the squares assigned by the grid. This made it extremely difficult to conduct any field walking or metal detecting as anyone conducting either of these exercises was always going against the grain of the grass. Hence the decision to focus on digging and not pursue these activities. That said we did pass the metal detectors over the spoil heaps with little joy.

Test Pits

Test Pits 1 and 2 were dug based on the resistivity results but it soon became clear that they were not reliable and that there was nothing in either of these pits.

Test Pits 4 to 6 were dug based on the 2014 magnetometry results but of course at the time we were not aware of just how far out the grid system was from that used in 2014 and it only had to be out by a small amount to mean that we did not hit the features we were looking for. Appendix 7 shows the GPS points for all of these test pits plotted upon the stored magnetometry from 2014, in fact we were about a meter out with the positioning of starting point for the grid meaning they all missed their targets.

Although some items of pottery were extracted from each of the test pits, in general they did not produce the level of finds we would have expected. The only real find was in test pit 5 where under context 3 we discovered what we believed to be a post hole. The post hole had a diameter of 14cm but as it was only a single post, we could not identify what it related to.

Test Pit 3 was on the edge of a feature and so it was extended, this became Trench 3

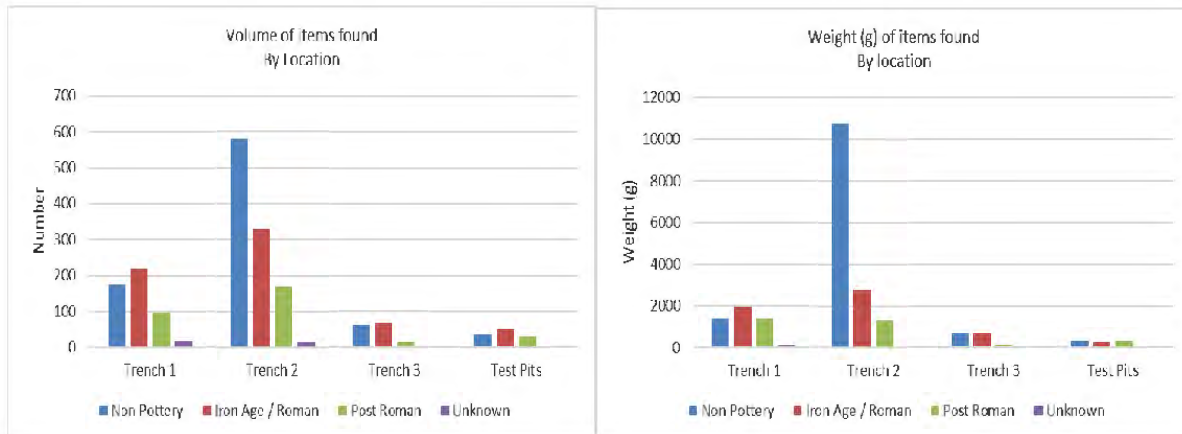
Having recorded all of the test pits they were refilled and the site left in the same condition as we found it.

Trenches

Having recorded all of the trenches they were refilled and the site left in the same condition as we found it.

Finds Summary

For the second dig running we retrieved over 1000 sherds of pottery but this time we also discovered a large quantity of animal bone.



As can be seen both the volume and weight of which found in Trench 2 dominated the dig.

We started by digging six test pits across the site, without much success, but every pit produced a piece of Lower Nene Valley Ware suggesting that this form of pottery could be found across the entire site, and of course it was also found in the trenches.

Trench 1 was dug in a North / South direction following what looked like a ditch in the magnetometry results. Over a third of the Iron Age / Roman pottery found in this trench was Roman Sandy Greyware (RSGW) and when we look at the Post Roman pottery Shelly Coarseware really stands out. Pottery finds were split roughly 2/3 Iron Age / Roman, 1/3 Post Roman. As for the bones found in this trench although much fewer bones were found in the North of the trench, they were much heavier.

Trench 2 produced the highest number of finds including 450 items of Animal bone nearly three times what was found in Trench 1, this bone weighed a staggering 9.4kg, we know that at least one bovine was buried here but the fact that a large amount of bone was found at either end of the trench suggests more than one. In terms of pottery once again the main stand out with regards Iron Age / Roman pottery was Roman Sandy Greyware (RSGW) and for Post Roman pottery Shelly Coarseware and the split between the two ages of pottery was the same as that seen in Trench 1.

Trench 3 on the other hand was an extension to test pit 3 and did not generate anywhere near as much finds as the other two. But interestingly it came to the same conclusion Iron Age / Roman finds were primarily Roman Sandy Greyware (RSGW) (although closely followed by Lower Nene Valley Ware) and Post Roman pottery was mainly Shelly Coarseware. The split between the different ages of pottery was even more extreme more like 4/5 to 1/5.

But the pottery is fairly conclusive most of it is from the Iron Age / Roman period mainly RSGW but LNVCCC and LNVGW seem to be all over the site.

Radiocarbon Dating

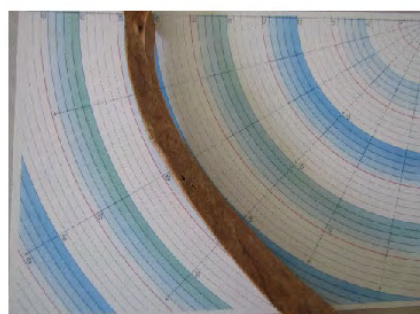
One of the key finds made was the discovery of the skeleton of a bovine, the skull was found at a depth of 70cm and measured 35cm long by 20cm wide (eye socket to eye socket)

Skull Location: Location on Application

The rest of the animal was underneath the skull or over to the eastern end of the trench 2 extension. With bones being found in the eastern end of trench 2 itself. Naturally the discovery peaked the diggers interest and one of the key discussions was around how old we thought the animal might be.



To obtain a date it was decided that we would try to get one of the bones that was discovered close to the skull radiocarbon dated. Jigsaw suggested that we contact SUERC Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory at Glasgow University through which we discovered that it would cost £345+vat to get a single bone analysed. This did not deter the group and we embarked on a fund-raising exercise which obtained the funds to proceed. SUERC suggested that a long bone was most likely to provide a successful date, so one of the rib bones was selected.



The bone chosen was 32cm long and at its widest point it was 40.9 mm whilst only 21.7 mm wide at its narrowest end. At its thickest point it was 16.1 mm deep thinning down to 7.1 mm. It weighed exactly 100g and had a curvature of 40°

It was despatched to SUERC on Wednesday 8th of November arriving in Glasgow the next day where it was allocated laboratory code GU66658. The processing was to take 12 to 16 weeks due to the proximity to christmas.

We did not actually receive the results until the 12th of March 2024 and when we did it was a bit of a surprise as it showed that the animal was only 300 years old dating from around 1719 ± 24

Other Finds

Another interesting find came from Trench 1 where at the Southern end we came across an entire base from a pot



The base of this pot had a diameter of 12.5cm and the back of it showed signs of having been burnt so we can safely assume that it was used in some form of cooking.

In the eastern end of Trench 2 along side all the animal bone we did find the remnants of what had once been a very large storage jar

The two pieces that were found fitted together neatly. And the rim of the pot was estimated to have a 55cm diameter. Meaning that its circumference was about 173cm. a pot this size would probably have been at least 50cm tall about the same size as some of the large garden pots we now purchase.



Environmental Summary

Entering the site this year we had an expectation as to what we might find, archaeologists had named the area Roman Site N, so anything other than Roman finds would be disappointing. The analysis agrees with the sites name, as most of the pottery finds were of Roman origins and we did find a coin from that period. But again, we did not find any real evidence of housing (apart for a single post hole). The amount of pottery, animal bone and oyster shells found does point to a settlement all our finds came from ditches that were believed to be rubbish dumps. There was a distinct lack of CBM (daub and brick) so if there had been any housing it was likely made of wood.

The bovine we did find turned out not to be from the Roman period but it along with the post roman pottery found does indicate that the site has been used for a very long time.

Discussions and Conclusions

There were a few key points that came out of this year's dig.

1. We are struggling to get anything from either the Magnetometer or Resistivity Meters that we borrow. The machines are now fairly old and we have not been trained in their use which means that they are not proving as useful as we need them to be. We have two real choices either properly train one of our members in the use of this equipment or get an expert to scan the ground for us. I suspect that the latter would be too expensive so I think we should look into what training opportunities are available.
2. The second point is related to the first in that once again we found no evidence of any buildings, if there were only wooden structures of course they would be difficult to locate but on both the sites we have investigated there is a huge amount of evidence of habitation but not of buildings. Perhaps knowing how to use the technology correctly may help pinpoint where we should be digging.
3. The bovine skeleton we found had its head sitting on top of its bones (see photograph in Radiocarbon dating section) this seemed very strange as any animal thrown into a pit would have ended up on its side and therefore the head would also have been on its side. Did they cut off the animal's head and place it on top of the body? Otherwise, the animal would have to be placed in an upright position which seems very unlikely.
4. Using a digger to create a large trench really helped. It provided quick and easy access to points of interest. If we can identify where we need to dig, a digger will definitely save time. It also made it easier to sieve through piles of extracted dirt.
5. Metal detecting and field walking were difficult as a result of the crop that was in the field, should we take more notice of what has been planted before deciding on the field to investigate?
6. The group's ability to identify pottery has really improved.

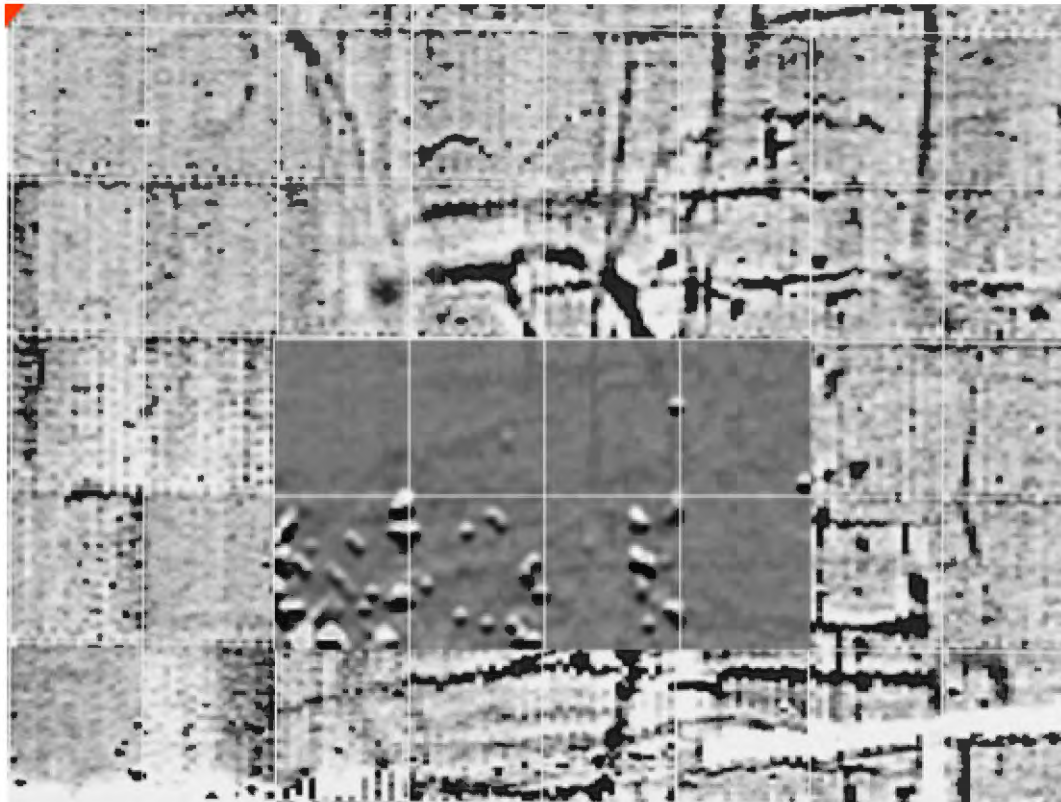
Recommendations

1. One member suggested that we should restrict the size of any pottery that is picked up as very small pieces cannot be identified and tend to be thrown out.
2. As a group we know what bone looks like but we do not know which part of the animal it came from (nor the type of animal) – To aid identification we should either obtain group training or get technical support
3. We should expand our search area to cover other local fields
4. Training on machinery is essential.
5. Radiocarbon dating was very effective, given the amount and quality of the pot found perhaps we should also consider organic residue analysis.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Magnetometer / Resistivity Results

The Magnetometer results come from 2014 when a large section of Covington was scanned. We only managed to get a small number of squares analysed using the Resistivity Meter and the results were superimposed on top of the 2014 results



Although the Resistivity Results suggested something large, they turned out to be unreliable. And we will need to give considerable thought to our next move when we return to our Keyston Site next year.

Appendix 2 – Finds Reports

Glass

Surprisingly there was a complete lack of any glass found in the pits or trenches. Glass was an often seen as an indication of wealth just below Gold and Silver so this could be an indication that this part of the village was not as prosperous.

Metalwork

The ground was not conducive to metal detection so it will come as no surprise that we found very little metal items. In fact, the only metal find of note was a small grog coin



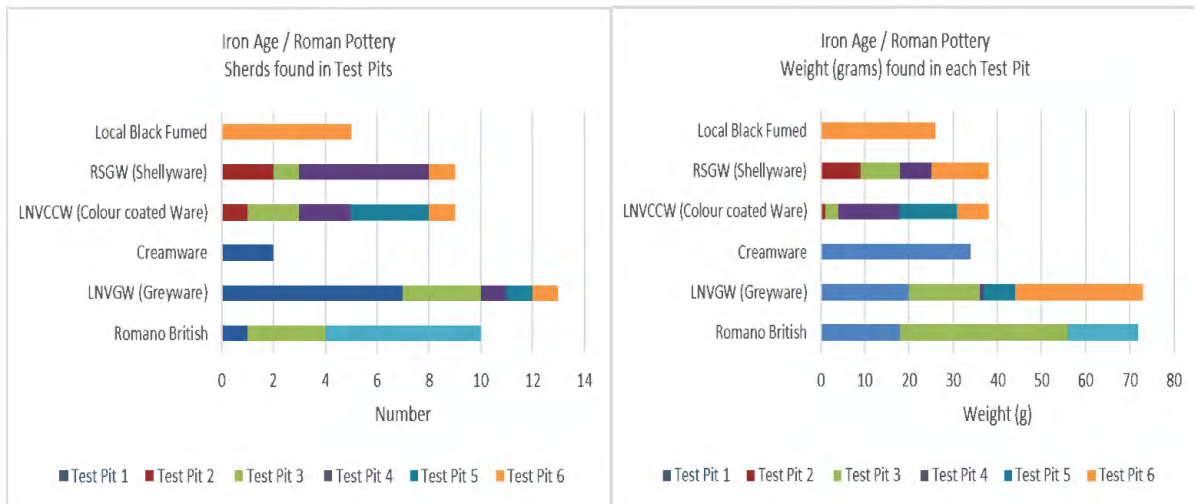
It has a 14.8mm diameter and was found near the southern end of Trench 1. We believe it to be Constantius Gallus (326-354) but the wear on the tail side makes it difficult to interpret

We did find a nail at the southern end of Trench 1, and four others were pulled out of the soil removed from Trench 2 but other than these finds we found very little metal items.

Pottery (Test Pits)

Six one metre square test pits were dug based on the Magnetometry results from 2014 and the resistivity results created this year

Overall, 48 items of **Iron Age / Roman pottery** weighing 281 grams were found across the six pits



Almost every pit included a piece of Lower Nene Valley Greyware (LNVGW) and a piece of Lower Nene Valley Colour Coated Ware (LNVCCW) suggesting that this type of pottery was prevalent in the area.

Interestingly 5 pieces of Local Black Fumed Pottery was found weighing 26g in Test Pit 6 and only in that pit. This pit being at the lower end of the settlement but it still contained the same Lower Nene Valley pottery.

As for the **Post Roman Pottery** that was found only 31 sherds came out of the six pits on average, they were slightly larger as the total weight was 345 grams.



Once again there is a dominant find in Shelly Coarseware which made up over half the finds appearing in most test pits and averaging 10g per sherd.

Again, Test Pit 6 produced a surprise where it had a quantity of Lyveden A Ware.

Although very little was found in Test Pit 1 it did produce possibly one of the best finds from the dig. We are not completely sure as to what it is, it could be the base of a cup as it is flat on the bottom or some sort of lid as it has a screw-based interior. Either way it does not look anything like the locally produced items so was probably imported. Believed to be of Roman origin it does present a very interesting item.



Unfortunately, yet again we did not manage to find any proof of the types of buildings that existed on our site. But in Test Pit 5 we did find what we thought to be a post hole

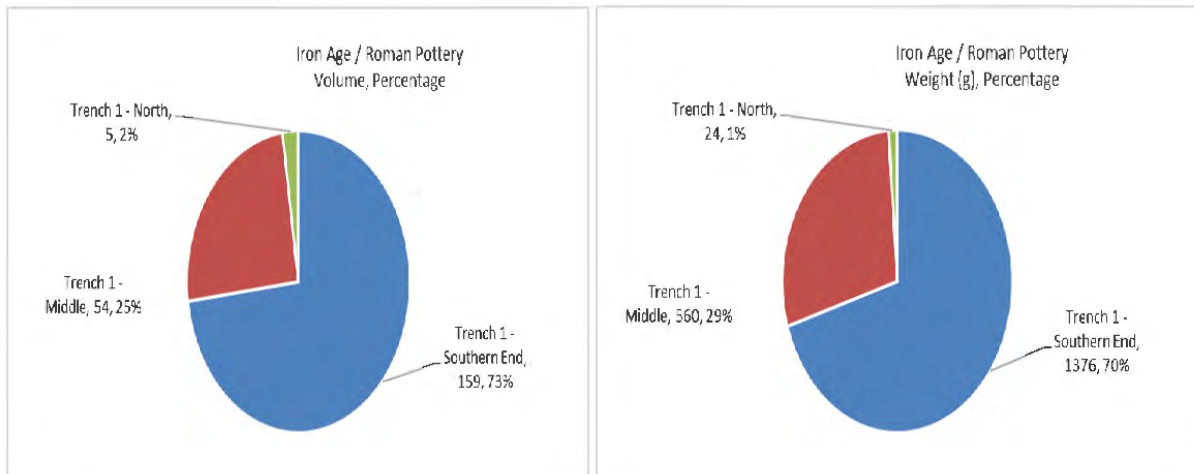


It had a 14cm diameter and was filled with loose soil. We did find what we believed to be another post hole in the Northern End of Trench 1 which could have been an indication of a round house but it was nowhere as clear as what we found in this test pit.

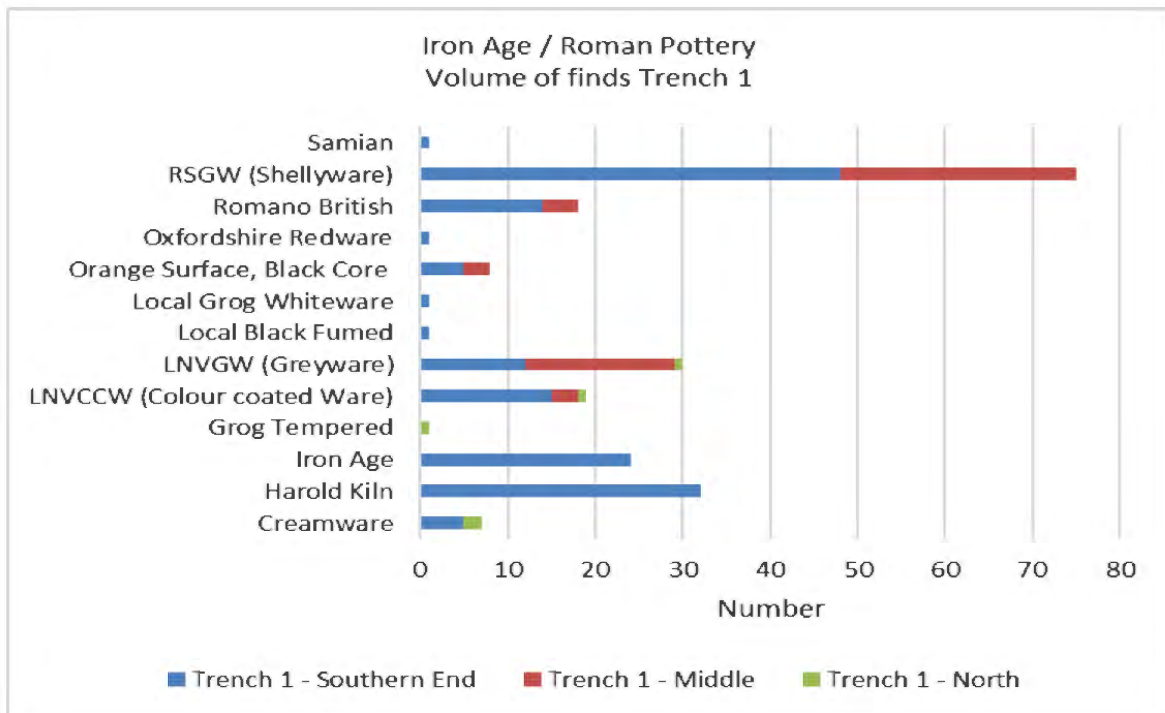
Pottery (Trenches)

Trench 1

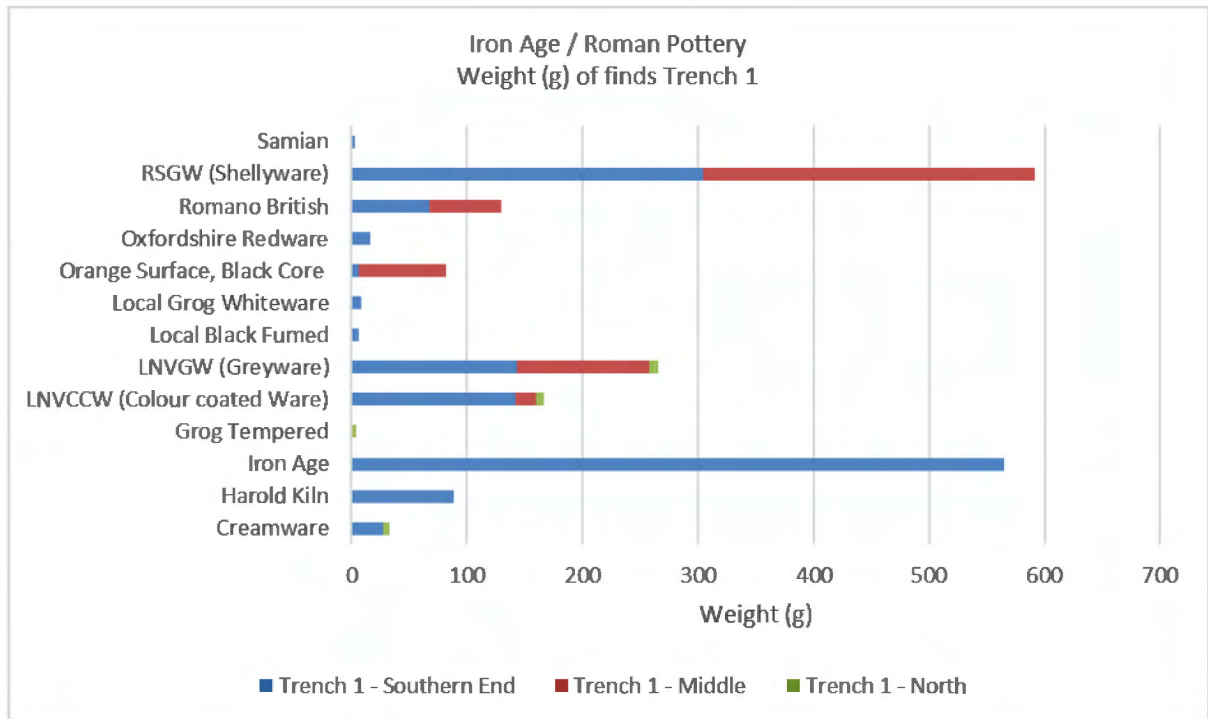
We split this trench into three sections (North, Middle and South) - looking at how our **Iron Age / Roman pottery** finds were distributed there is a very clear winner. In total we found 218 sherds from this period weighing 1960g but they were not evenly spread throughout the trench but firmly clustered towards the southern end.



As for the different types of pottery 34% were Roman Sandy Greyware (RSGW) but Lower Nene Valley pottery and Harold Kiln pottery also stood out. Also 11% of the finds were classified as Iron Age.



In terms of weight the Iron Age finds are prominent



Although only 11% of finds they represent 29% of the weight. The other “heavy weight” being RSGW.

A lot of pottery found at the southern end of the trench seemed to come from the same pots

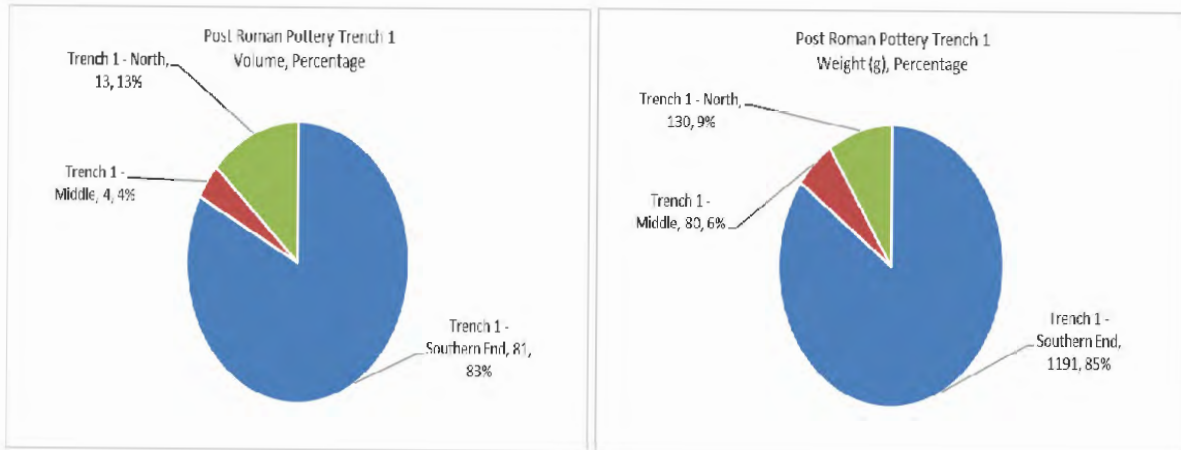


The design on these pieces was much cruder and it is believed they are Iron Age



Although Roman items were also present including some with clear lines used as decoration.

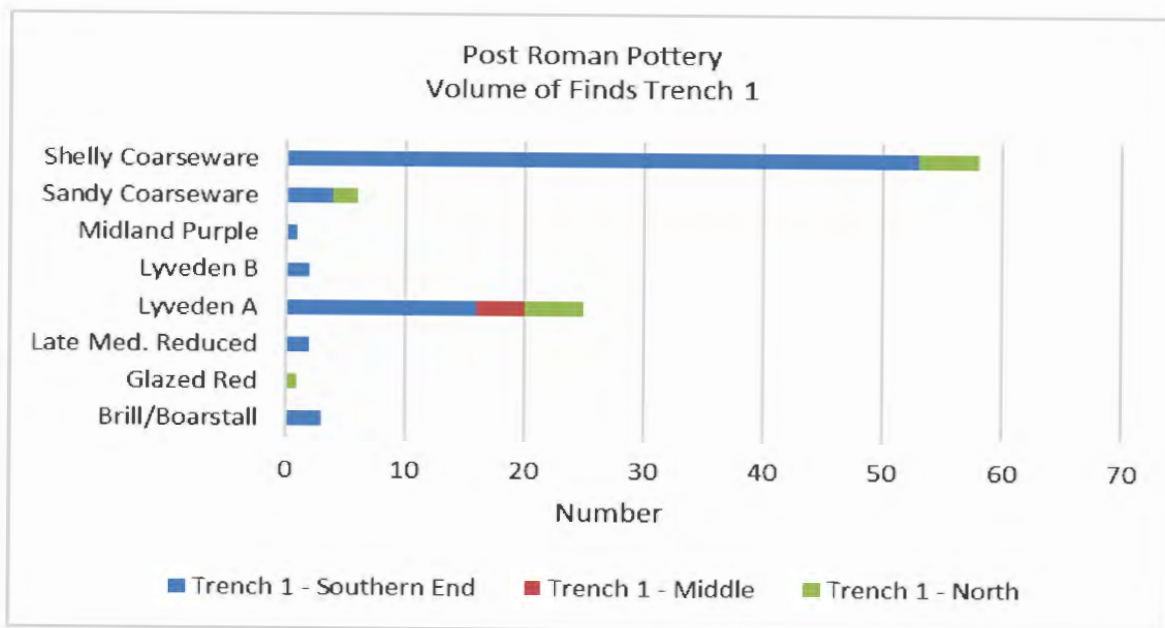
Turning to the **Post Roman Pottery finds** they were nowhere near as plentiful. In total we found 98 items weighing a total of 1401g



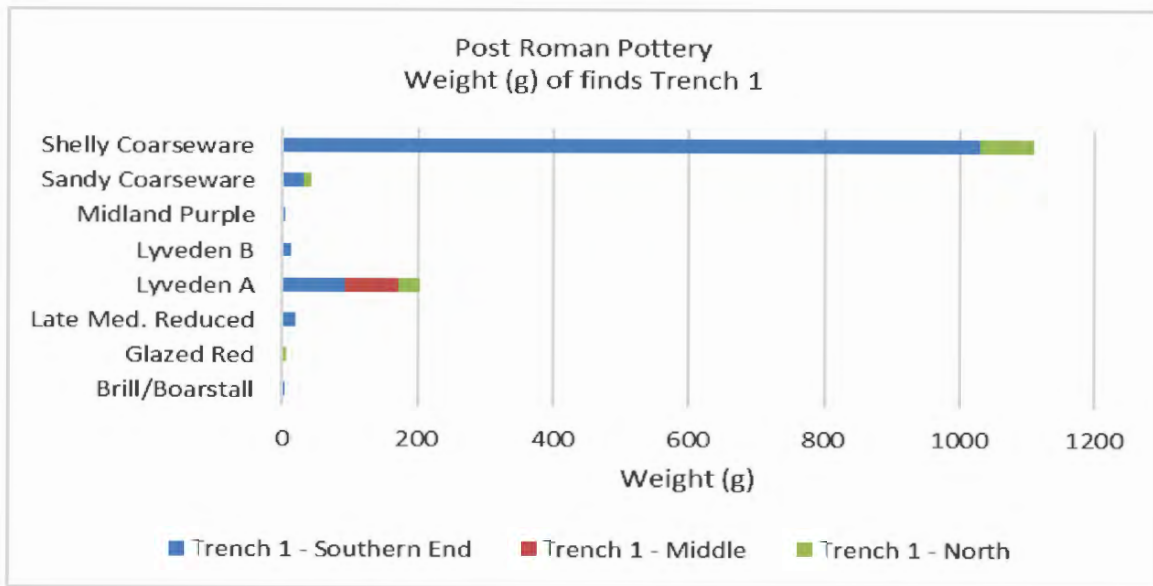
But once again they were very focused on the Southern end of the trench with over 80% of the finds coming from that area.

When we split the finds down into the different types of pot then the one that really stands out is Shelly Coarseware

Although Lyveden A comes in a good second place.



The weights show a very similar picture with only these two types of pot making an impact.



The Northern section of Trench 1 produced a number of related small finds of Post Roman origin. Five pieces of Shelly Coarseware from the same pot and five pieces of Lyveden A including the base of what looks like a vase. These items were found relatively close together. And represented almost the entire finds in the northern section.



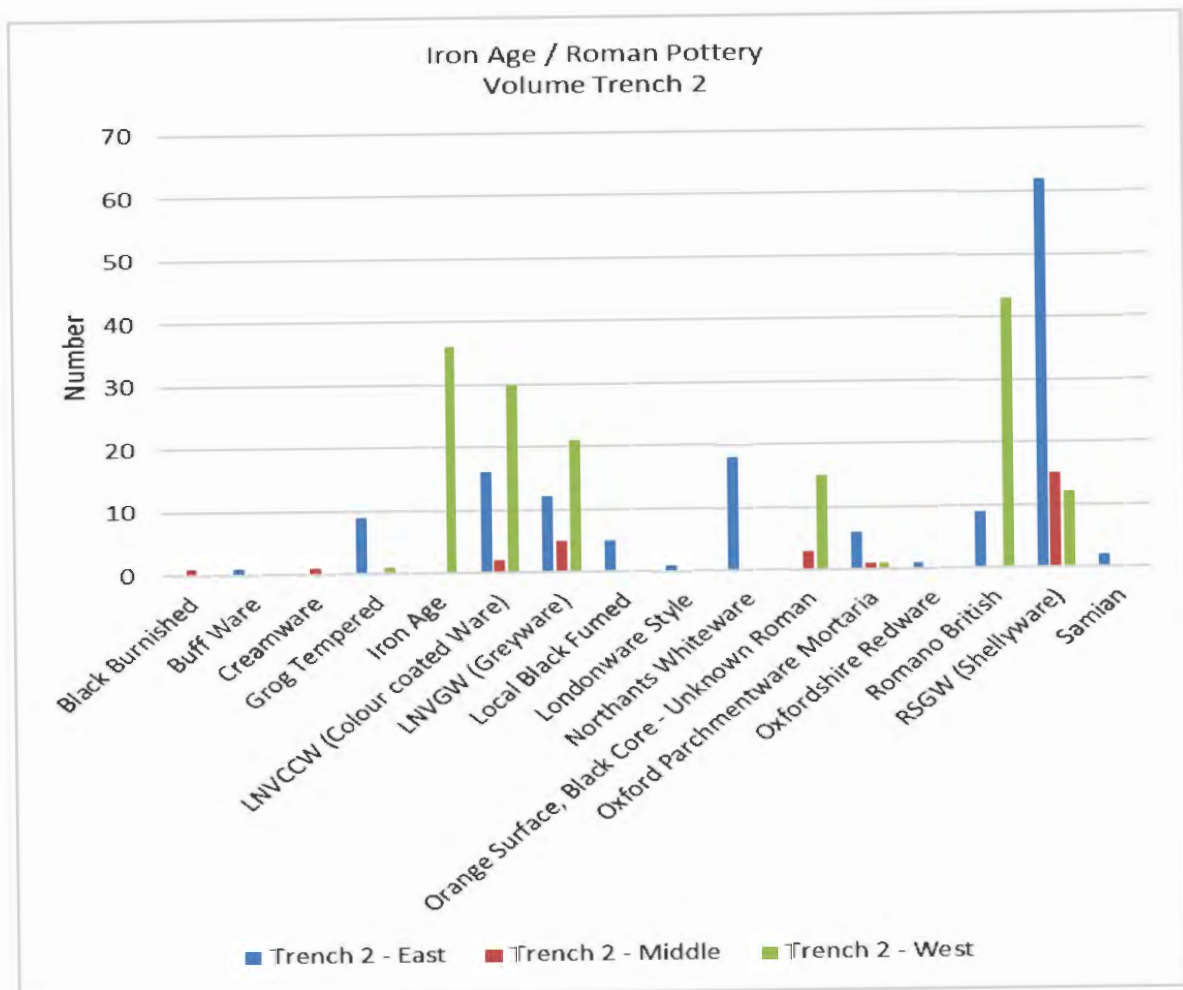
In the southern section of Trench 1 we did find another 16 items weighing a total of 90g these items could not be identified but if they followed the same proportions as above then roughly 10 or 11 would be Roman and 5 or 6 post Roman.

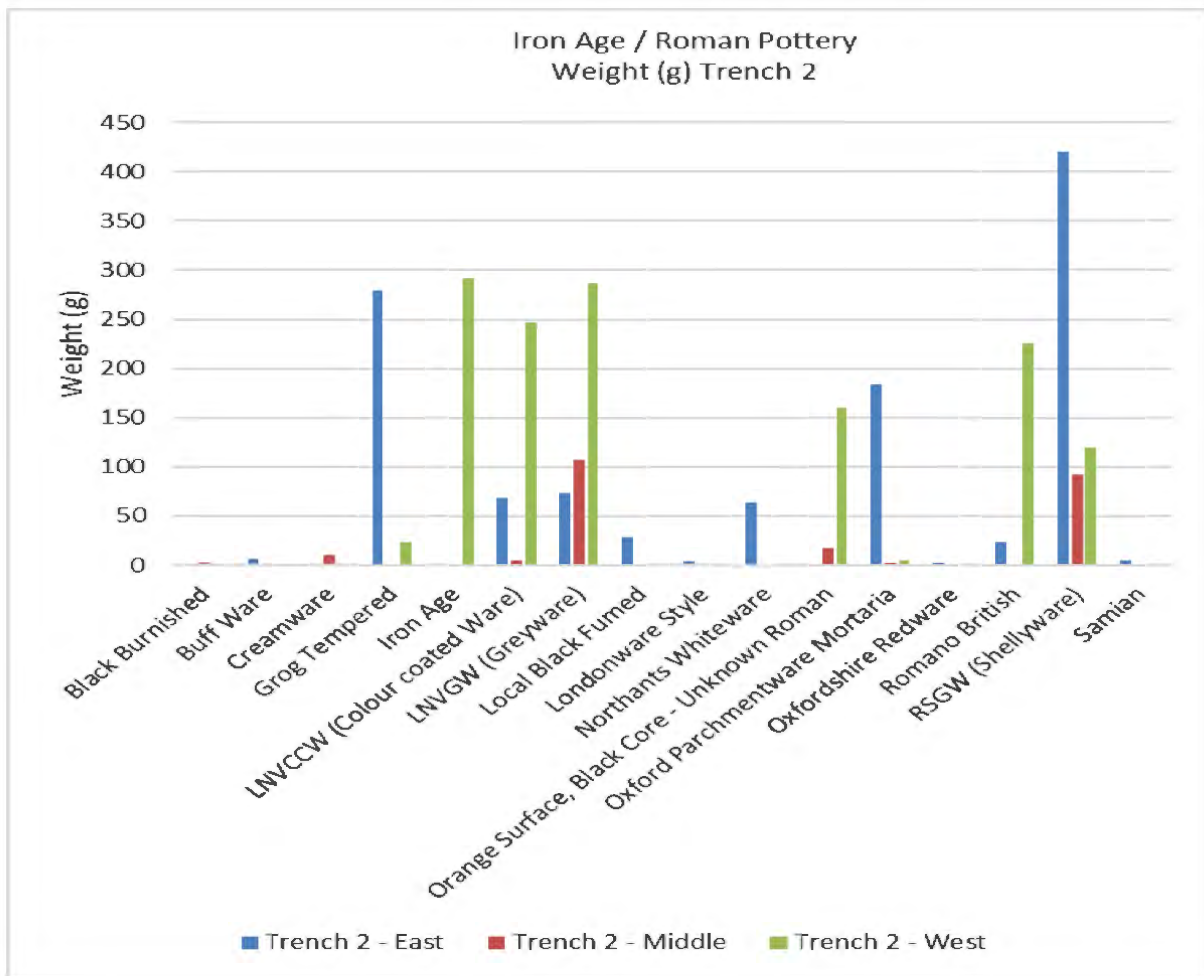
Trench 2

Once again, we split this trench into three sections this time (West, Middle and East) as it crossed East to West across the field. In total we found 329 **Iron Age / Roman pottery** items weighing 2757g



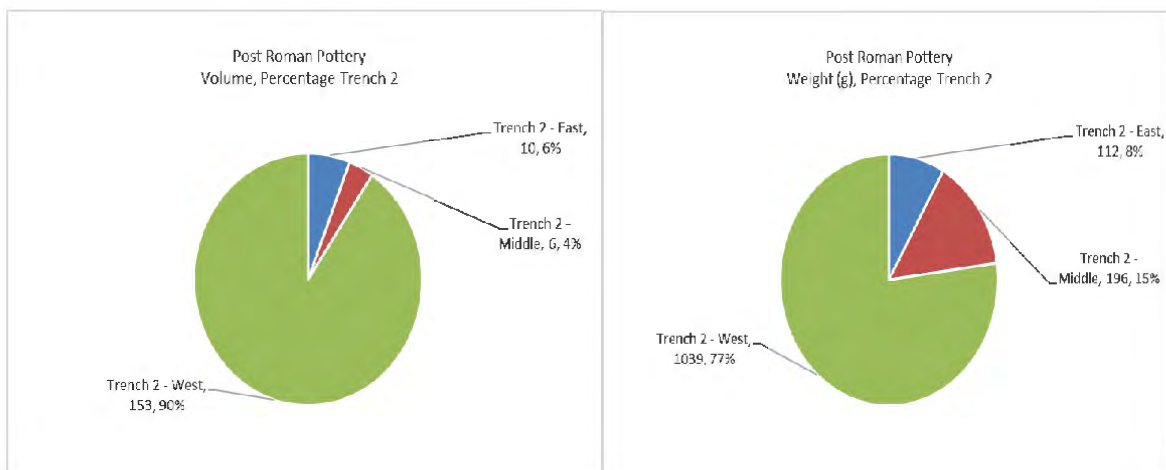
We can see that the number and weight of the finds are very evenly split between the East and West ends of the trench. But that does not mean they are the same as can be seen the Eastern finds are dominated by RSGW (Shellyware) but the items found in the West of the trench are varied including 36 pieces defined as being Iron Age



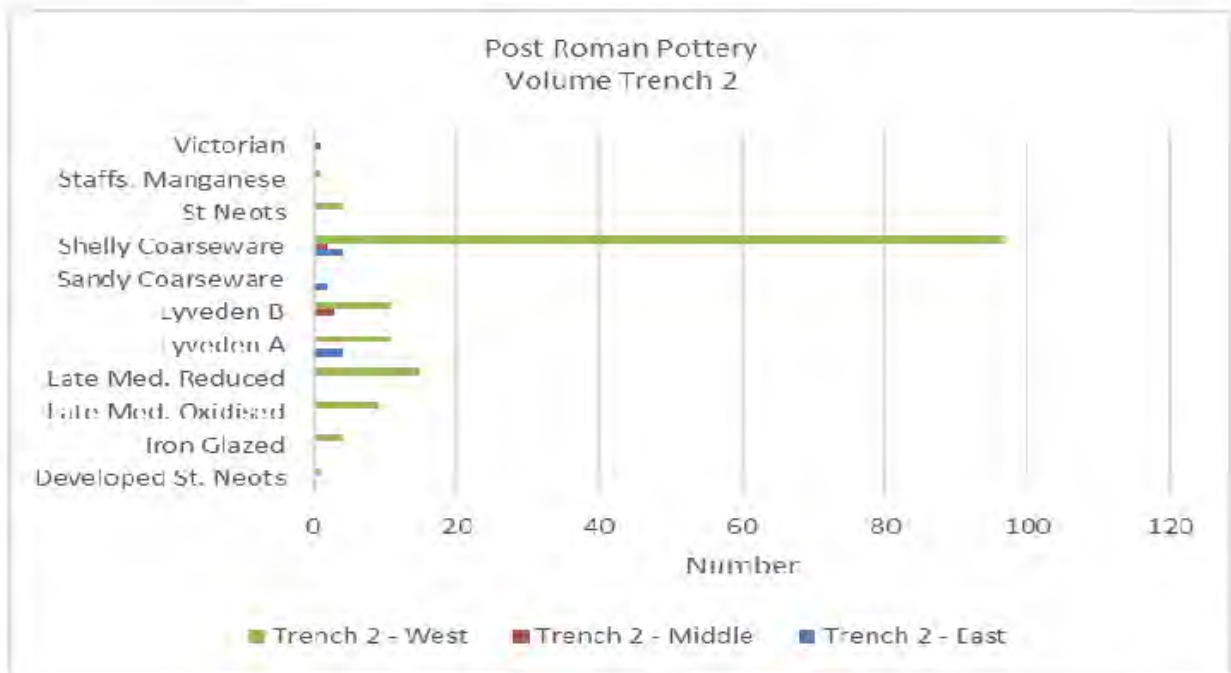


Looking at the weights of the finds we see a similar picture apart from a spike in Grog Tempered Ware found in the East end of the trench showing some large finds compared with other pieces.

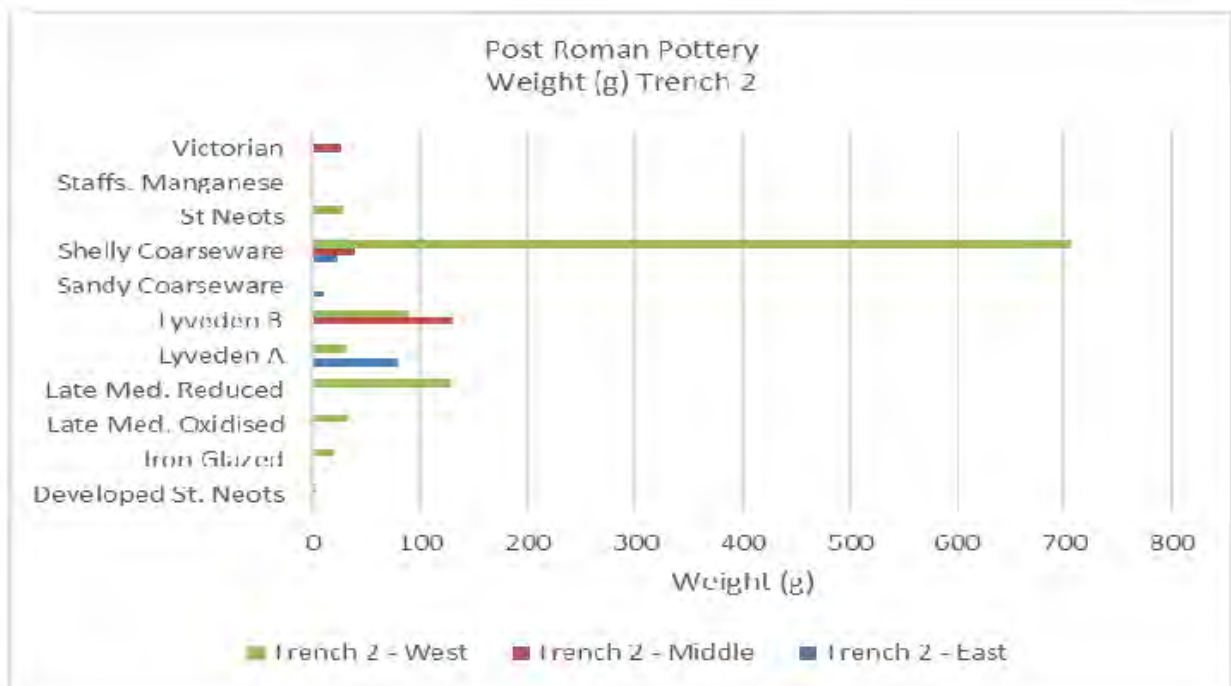
Unfortunately, when we turn to the **Post Roman Pottery finds** we do not see a similar picture. In total we found 169 items weighing a total of 1347g



Almost all of the Post Roman finds came from the western end of the trench.



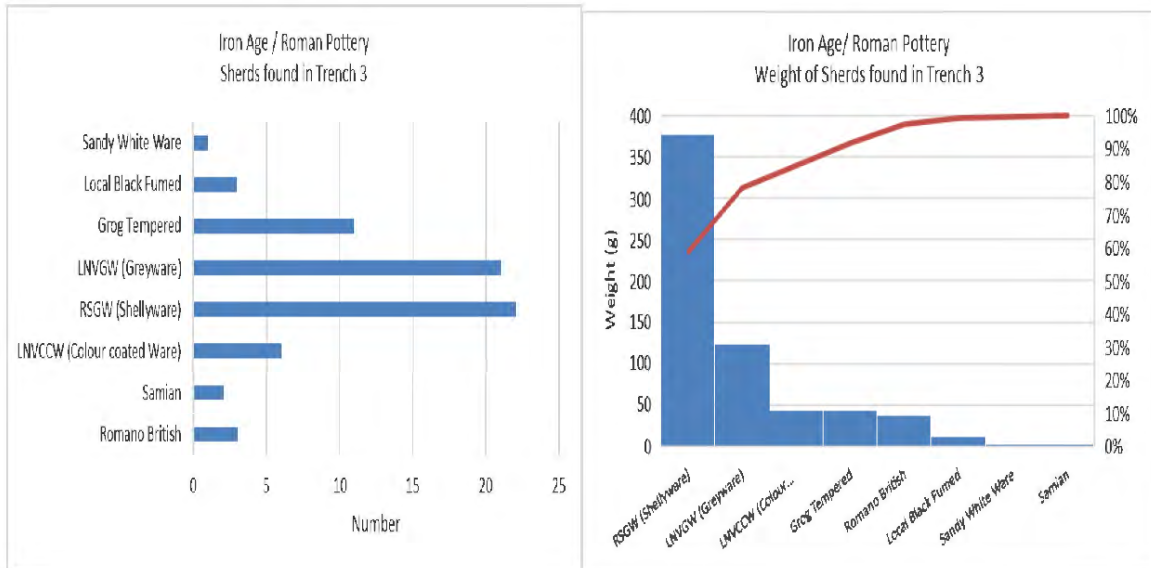
Almost all of the finds were Shelly Coarseware and of course we found exactly the same when we look at the weight of the finds. Although there was a large piece of Lyveden B found in the middle of the trench.



As with Trench 1 we had a number of unidentified items (14 weighing 47g) as these were found at the western end of the trench they are very difficult to date.

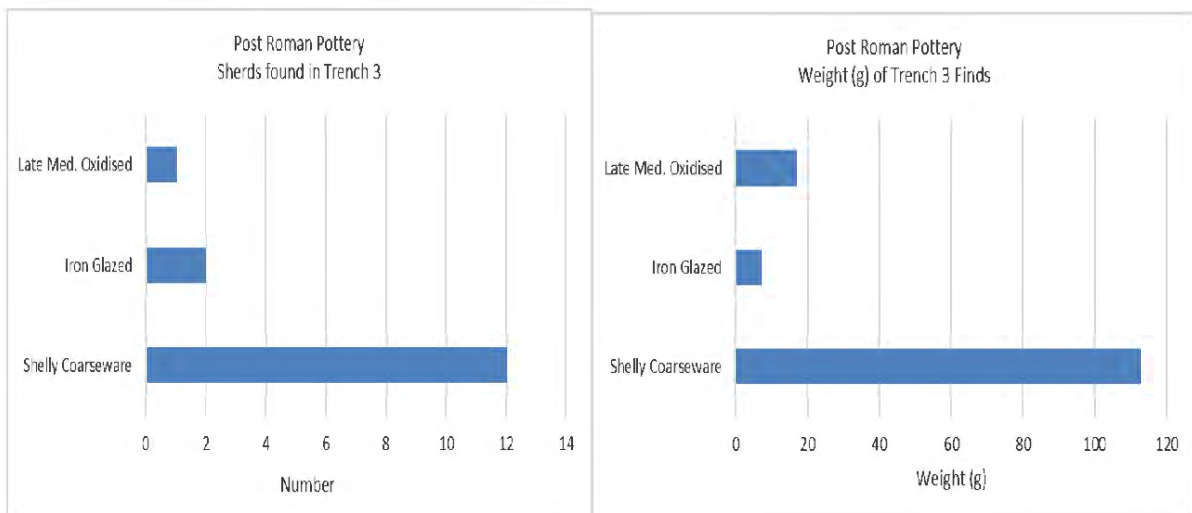
Trench 3

In Trench 3 we did not find anywhere near as much pottery as in the other two trenches. We found 69 items that were identified as of **Iron Age / Roman** origins, they weighed a total of 644 grams.



In terms of volume, they were primarily Lower Nene Valley Ware and Roman Sandy Greyware (RSGW) but turning to their weight they strongly biased towards RSGW with over ½ of the finds being RSGW.

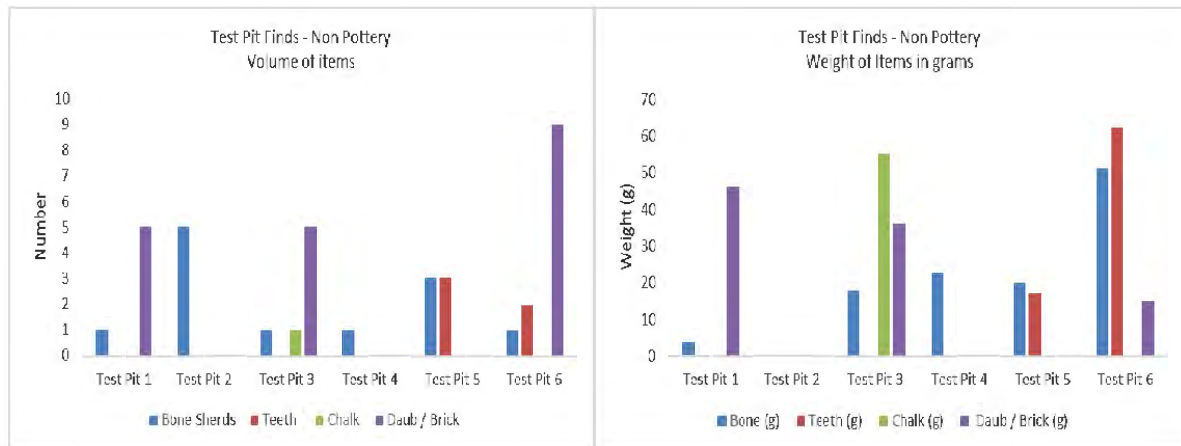
With regards **Post Roman pottery**, the pickings were even smaller with only 15 items weighing 137g almost all were Shelly Coarseware.



Teeth, Bones and Shells and other non-pottery finds

Test Pits

As the pits were possibly out by as much as a metre it is probably not a surprise that they did not produce a large number of items.



Test pit 1 was dug just a little south of where we were later to dig Trench 2 but its finds were minimal.

Test pit 2 was dug based on the resistivity results and although there were a few fragments of bones was again negligible

Test pit 3 had a few items of daub and was later expanded to create Trench 3

Test pit 4 was dug to the west of what was to become trench 2 it was possibly outside the furthest stretch of the ditch, although it produced a single sherd of bone.

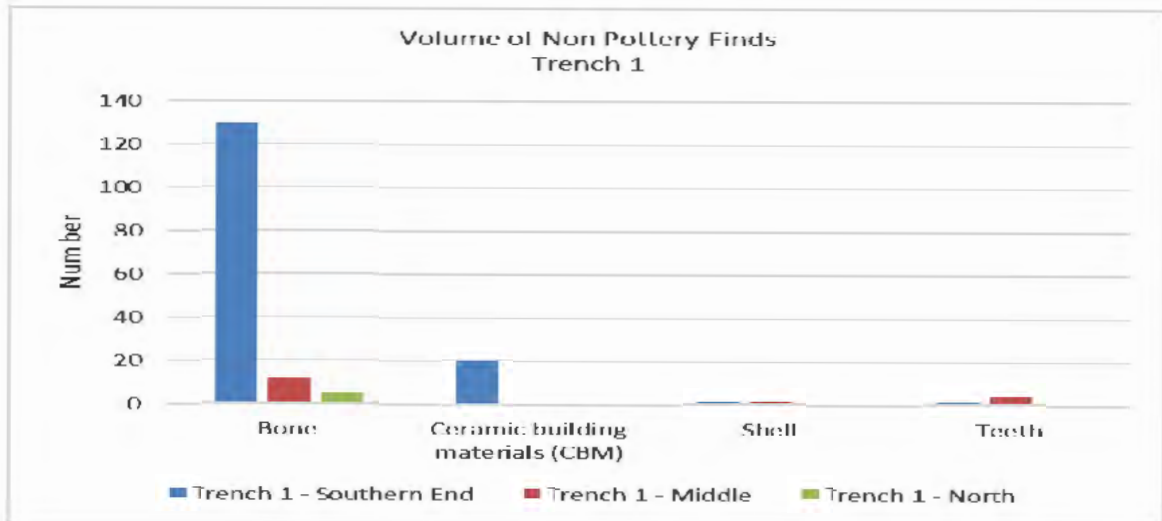
Test pit 5 threw up some bone and teeth, it was the furthest north we dug on the field and did not seem to be near any ditch so possibly worth future investigation.

Test pit 6 was at the other end of the site well below the southern end of Trench 1 and seemed to be in an area which looked empty according to the magnetometry but even here we found some bones and building materials

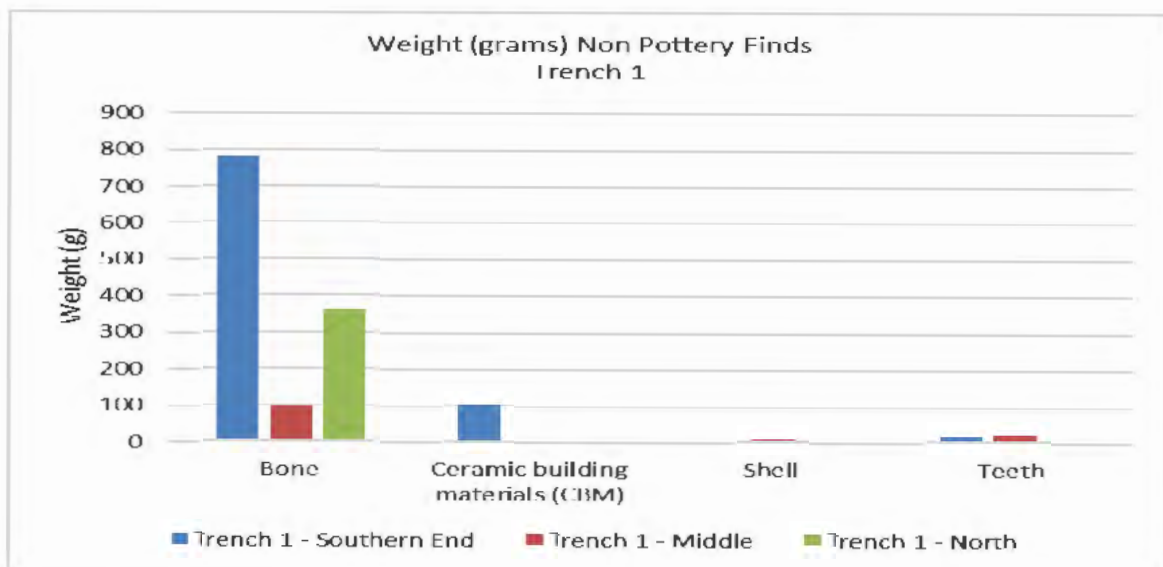
Trench 1

This trench was dug from North to South in the field following the contours of a ditch defined by the 2014 magnetometry results and the findings could not be more different.

Overall, we found 174 non pottery items weighing 1383g but almost all of them were animal bones and almost all of them were found at the Southern end of the trench.



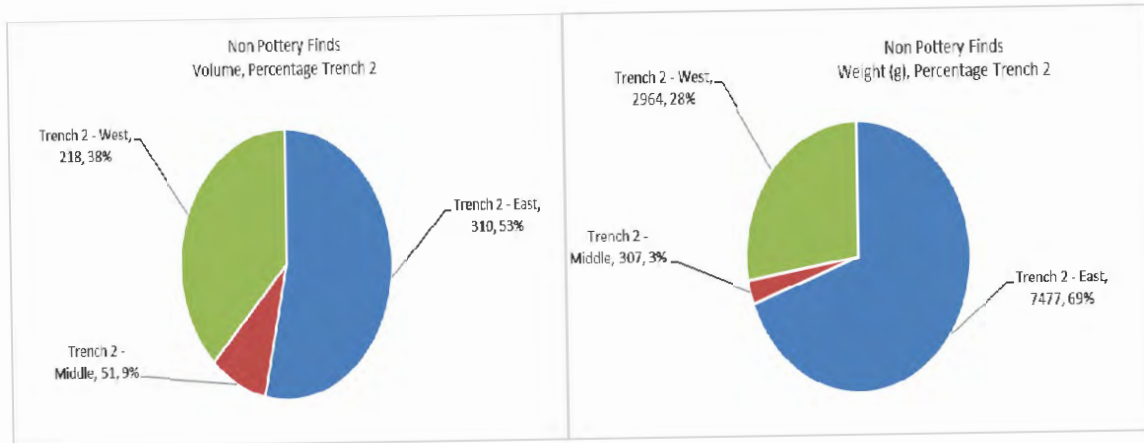
Although, when we look at the weight of the bones some heavier bones were found to the North of the trench.



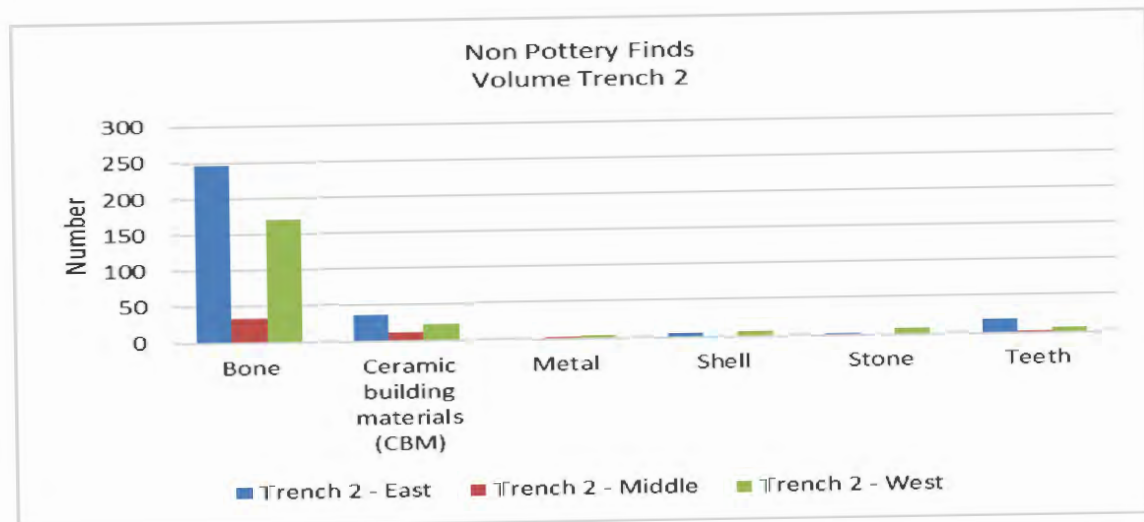
Trench 2

This trench was dug from East to West across the field, we were very lucky with this trench as it crossed two rubbish pits one at either end of the trench.

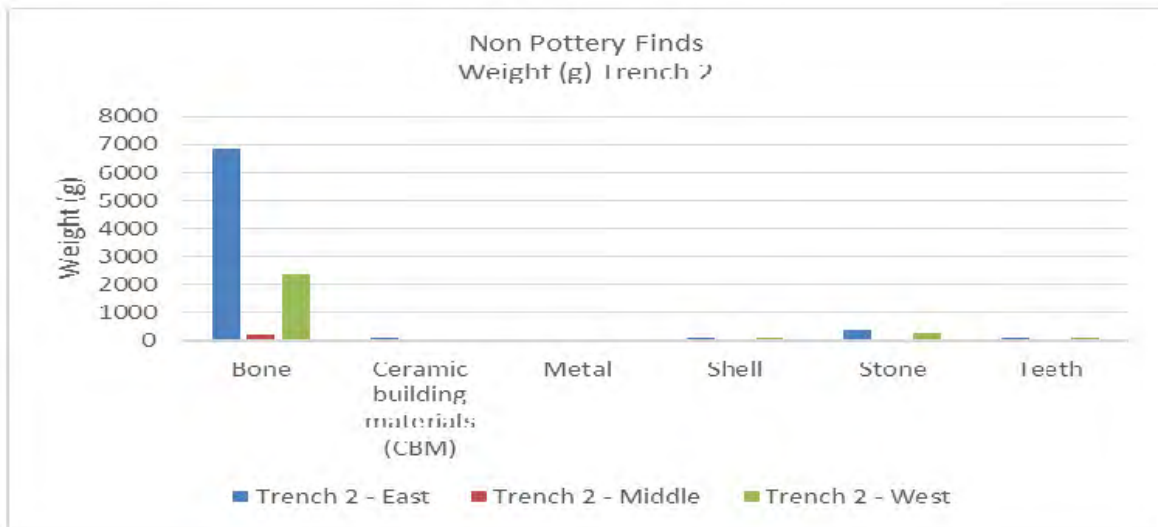
This trench was the most fruitful as it produced 579 non-pottery items that weighed a total of 10,748g as with trench 1 the vast majority of these items were animal bones.



We believe that at the Eastern End of the Trench we recovered most of a skeleton of a bovine (including its skull) it was from this group we extracted a bone to have it radio carbon dated. But the amount of bone that was extracted from the western end of the trench suggests that there was probably a large part of a second skeleton buried there.



Although the quantity and weight of bone absolutely dominates the different types of find there were also some interesting finds in the other categories. For example, the shells found tended to be oyster shells. Which formed a big part of their diet during the roman period and would have had to have been brought to Covington.



And the stone items looked like they could have been used as tools with some burn marks on a couple of stones, sharpened flint tools and something that had been smoothed down to resemble a pestle.

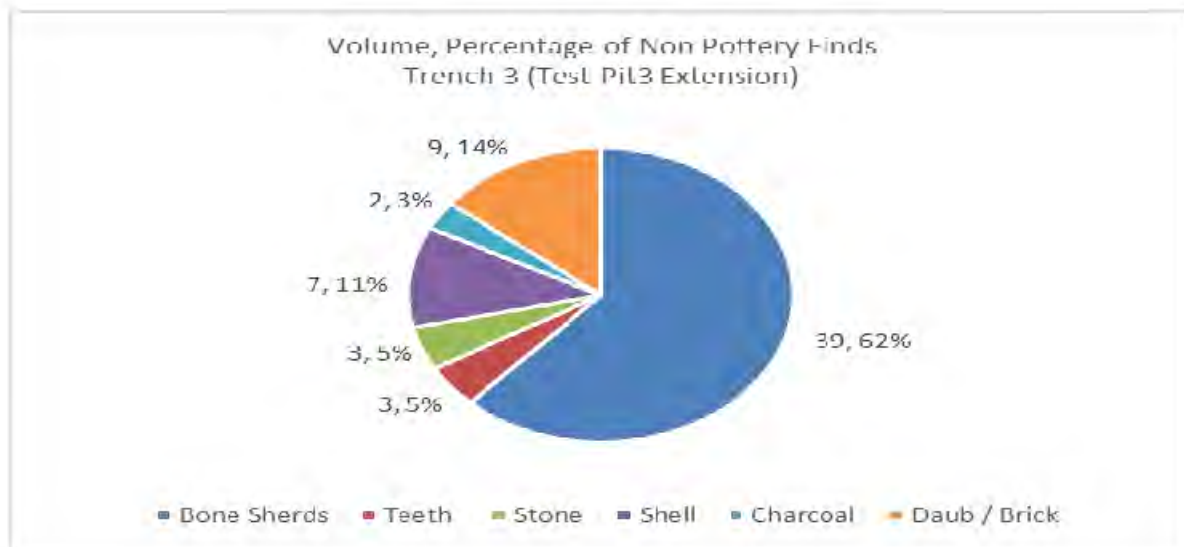
The CBM material found was almost completely daub suggesting that as the buildings on the site deteriorated the bits that fell off were dumped in the rubbish pits.

The following photographs show the bones embodied in the soil and an indication of the amount of bone that we extracted from the Eastern end of the trench

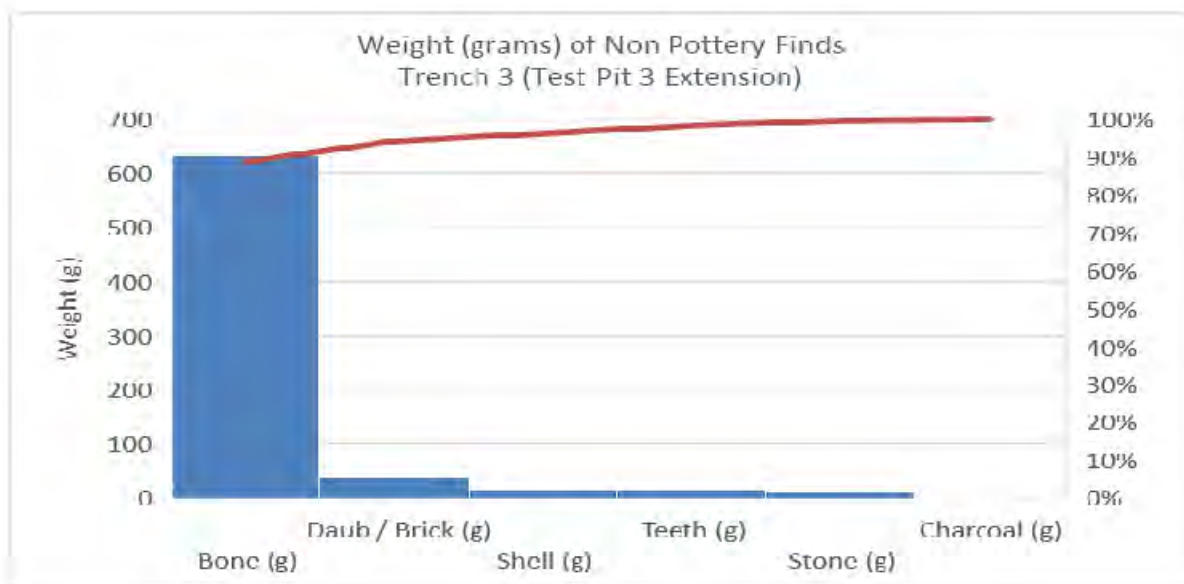


Trench 3

Expanding Test Pit 3 produced a different profile of Non pottery Items compared to the test pit 3, there was significantly more bone and although there was still some daub it was nearly matched by the number of pieces of Shell. In total there were 63 items weighing 715g mainly dictated by animal bone

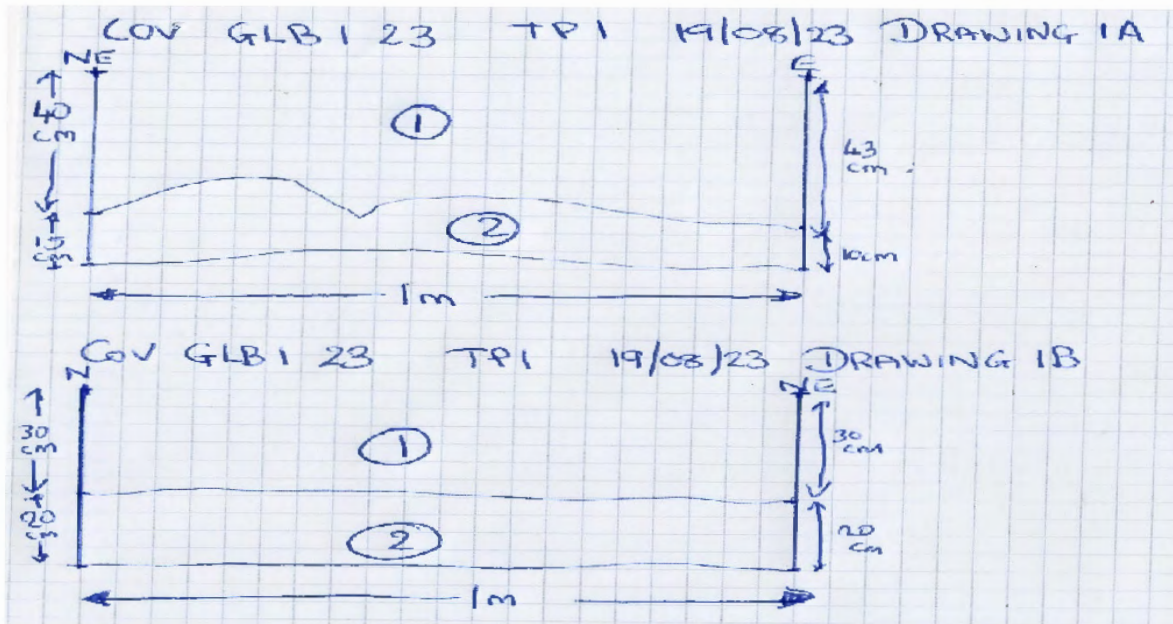


When we look at the weight of items found it is totally dominated by the weight of the bones and although the type of bone has not been identified we do know that it included a sheep's jaw bone.

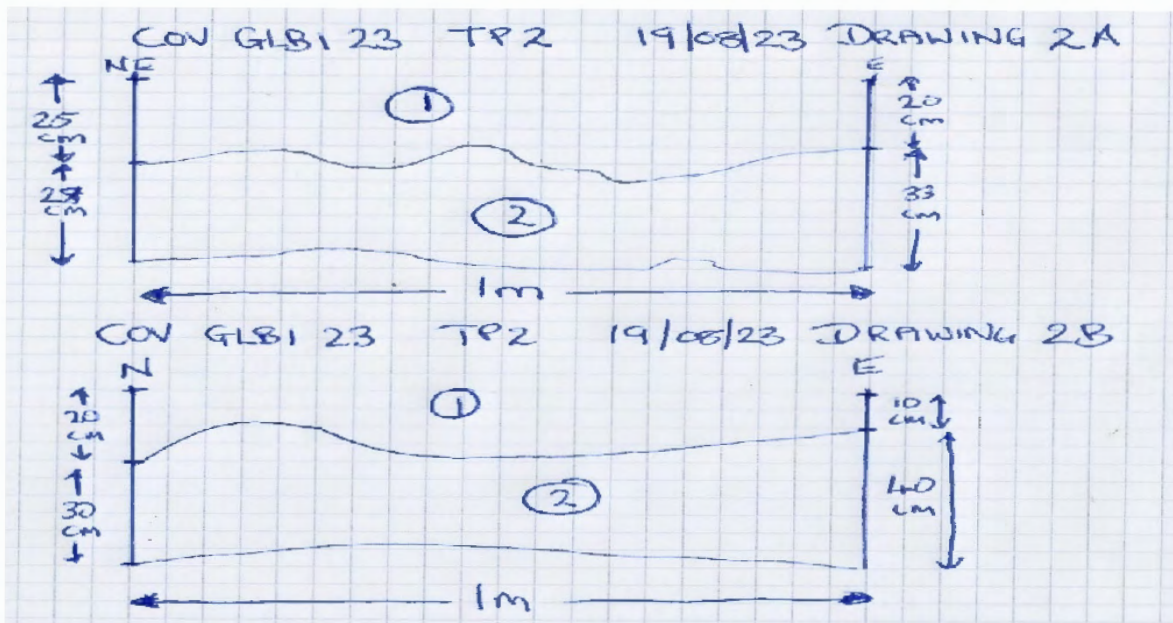


Appendix 3 – Section Drawings – Test Pits

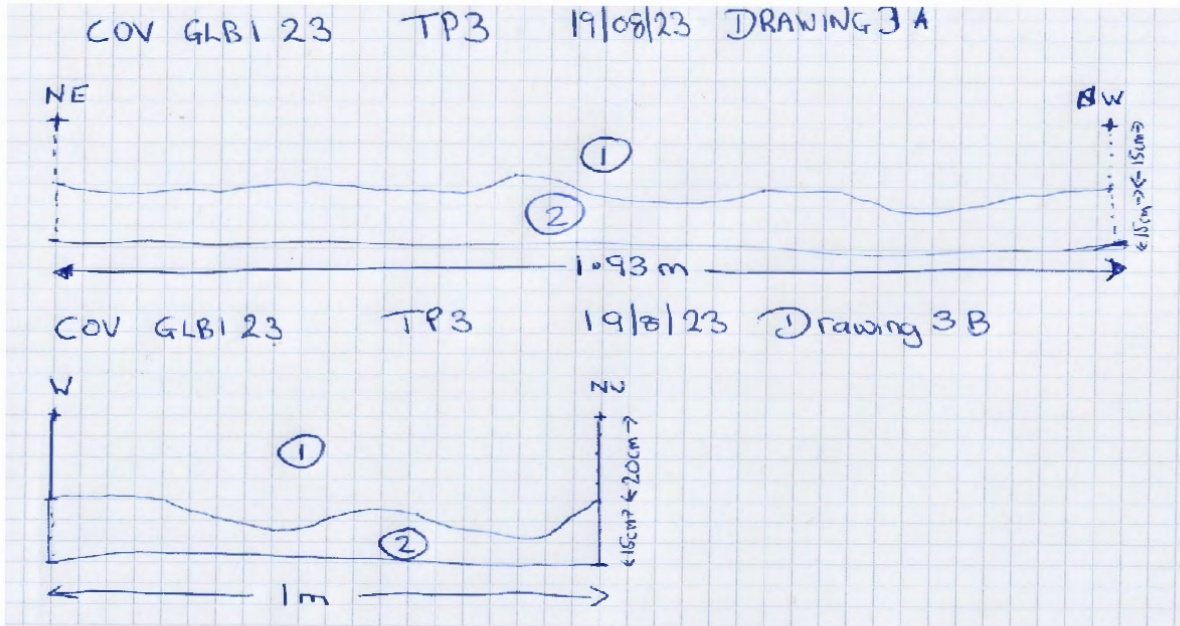
Test Pit 1 – Location on Application



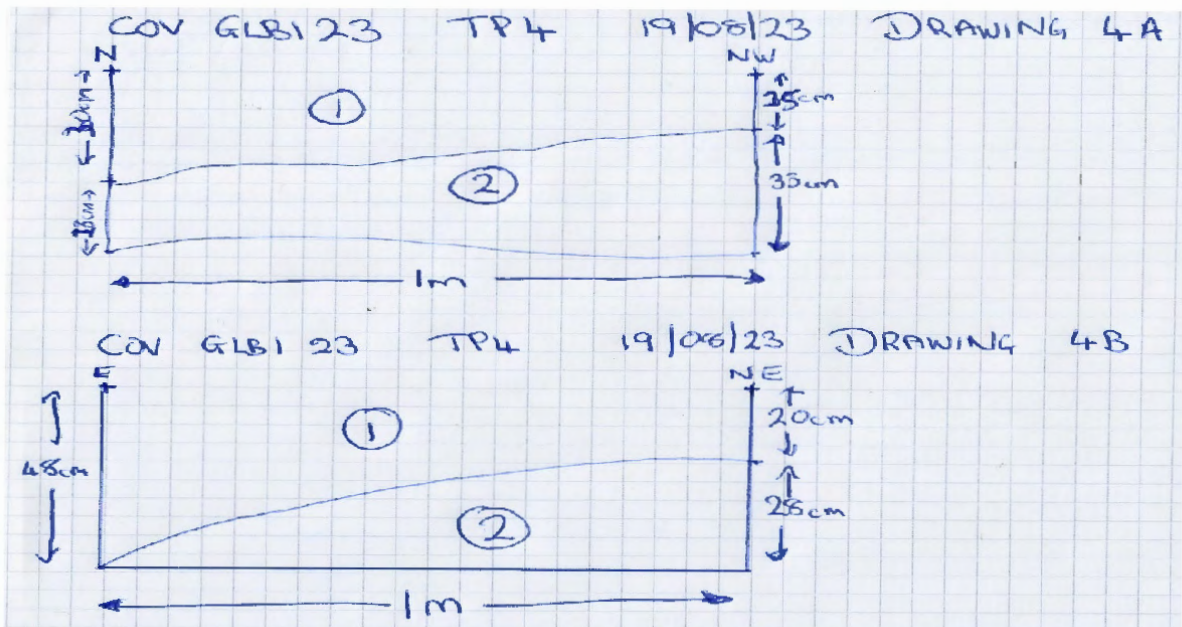
Test Pit 2 – Location on Application



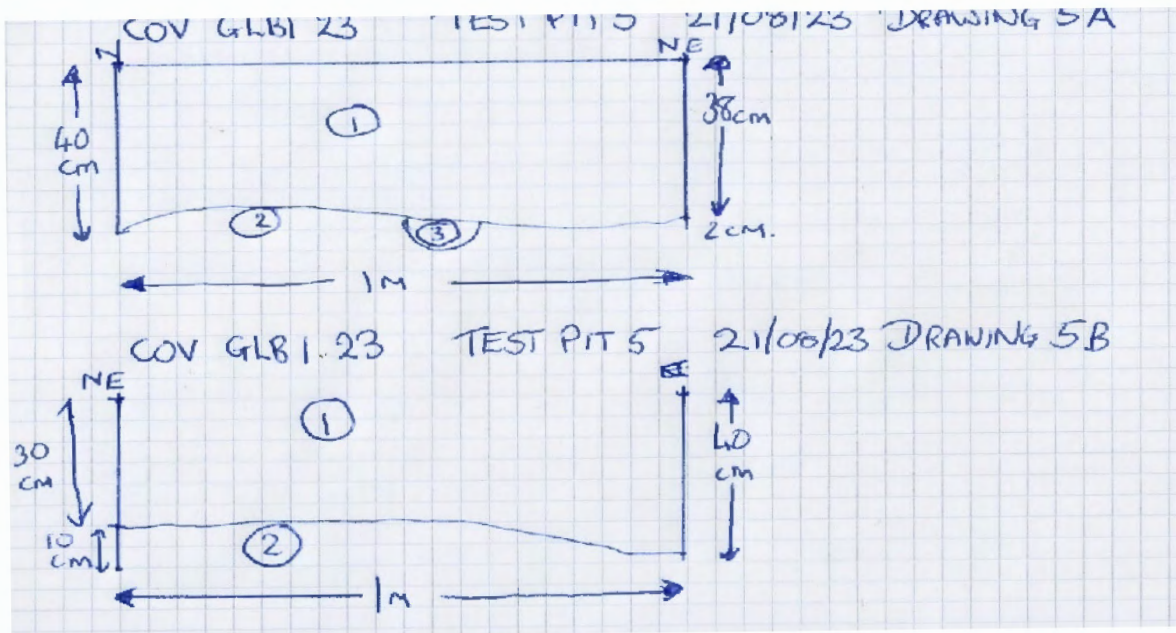
Test Pit 3- Location on Application



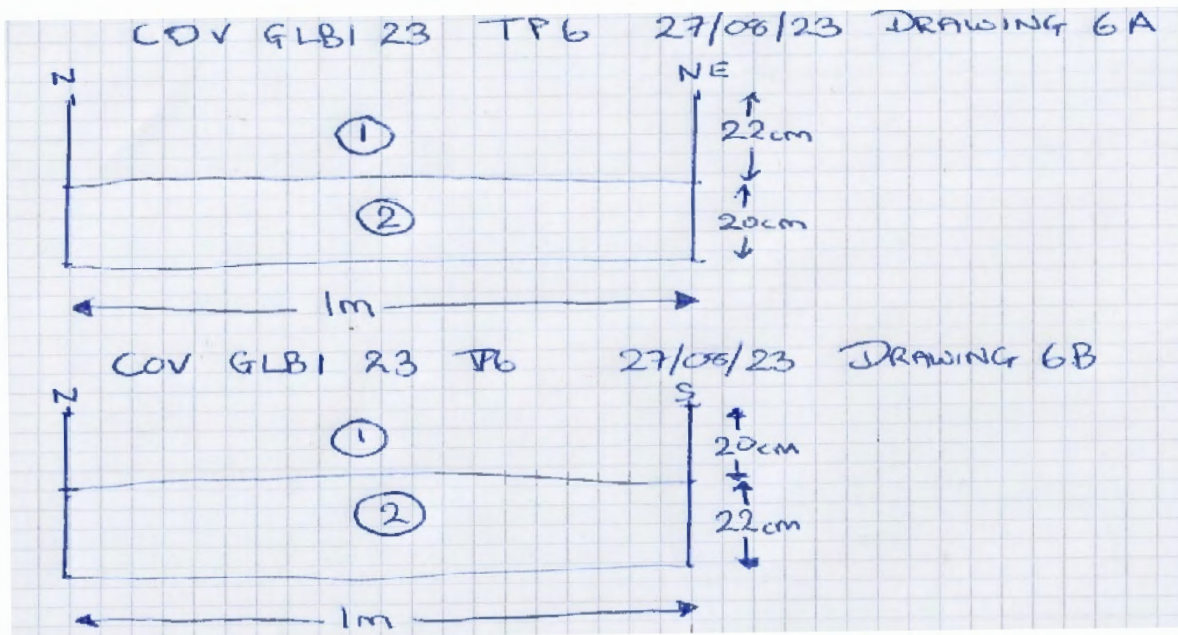
Test Pit 4- Location on Application



Test Pit 5- Location on Application



Test Pit 6- Location on Application



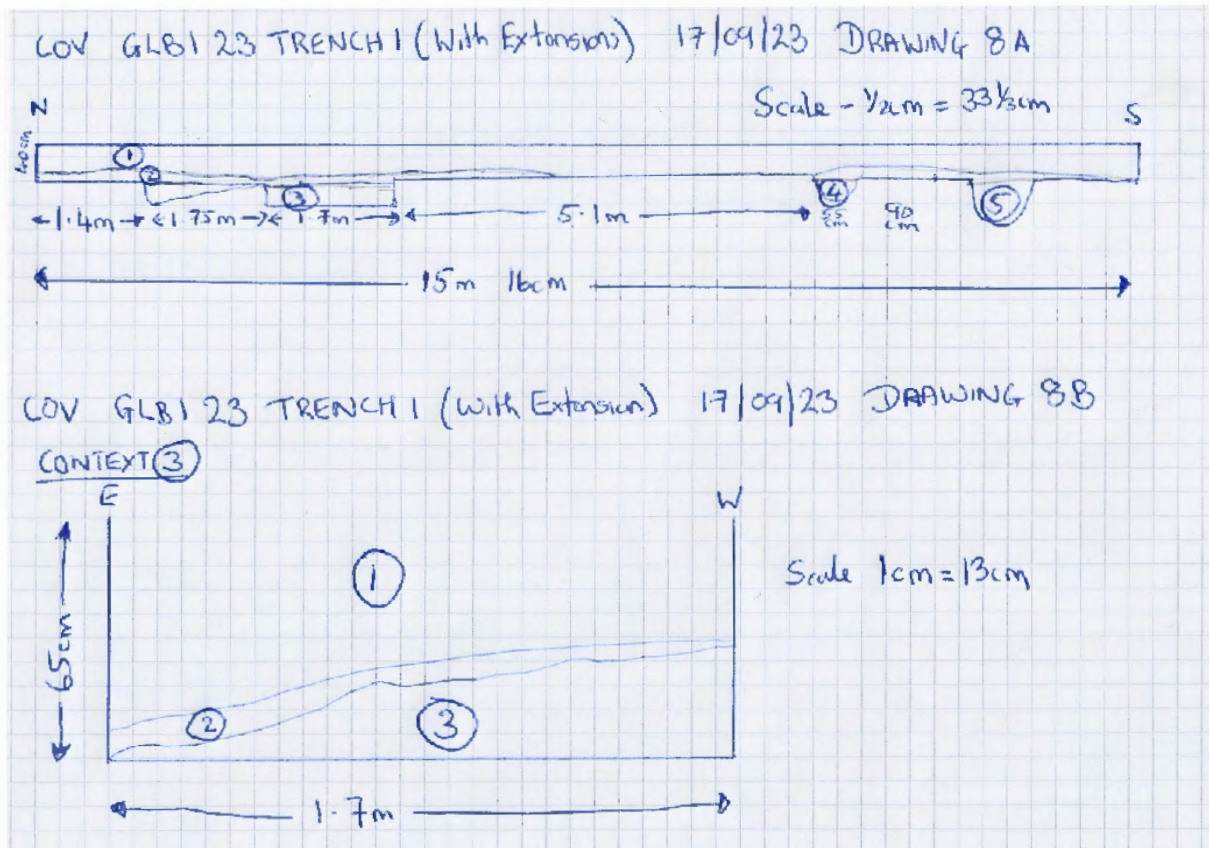
Appendix 4 – Section Drawings – Trenches

Trench 1 – Crossed the field roughly in a North to South direction with three GPS points taken

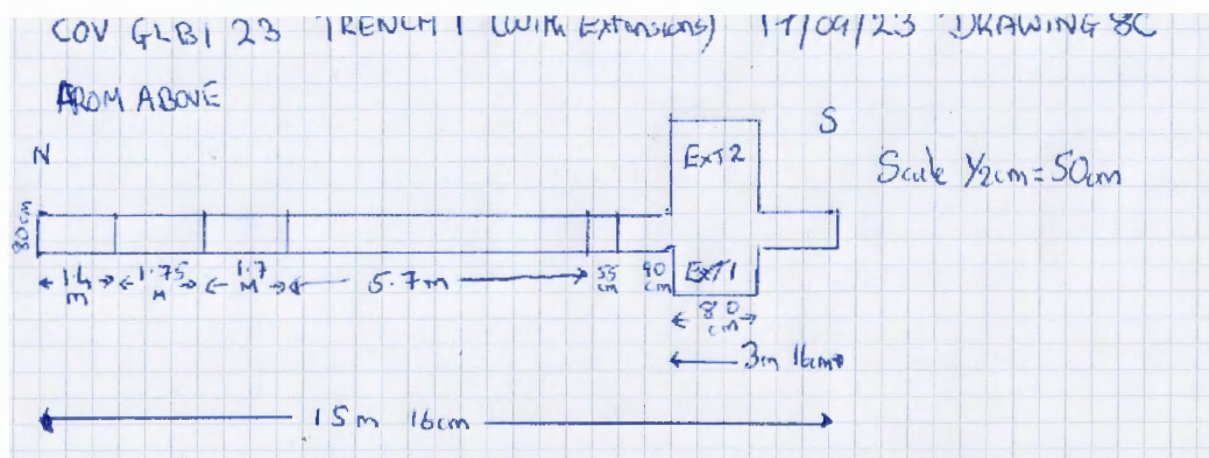
(North End – Location on Application,

Mid- Point –Location on Application,

South End - Location on Application)



Towards the south end of the trench, we started to find a significant amount of pottery so it was extended to both the east and west

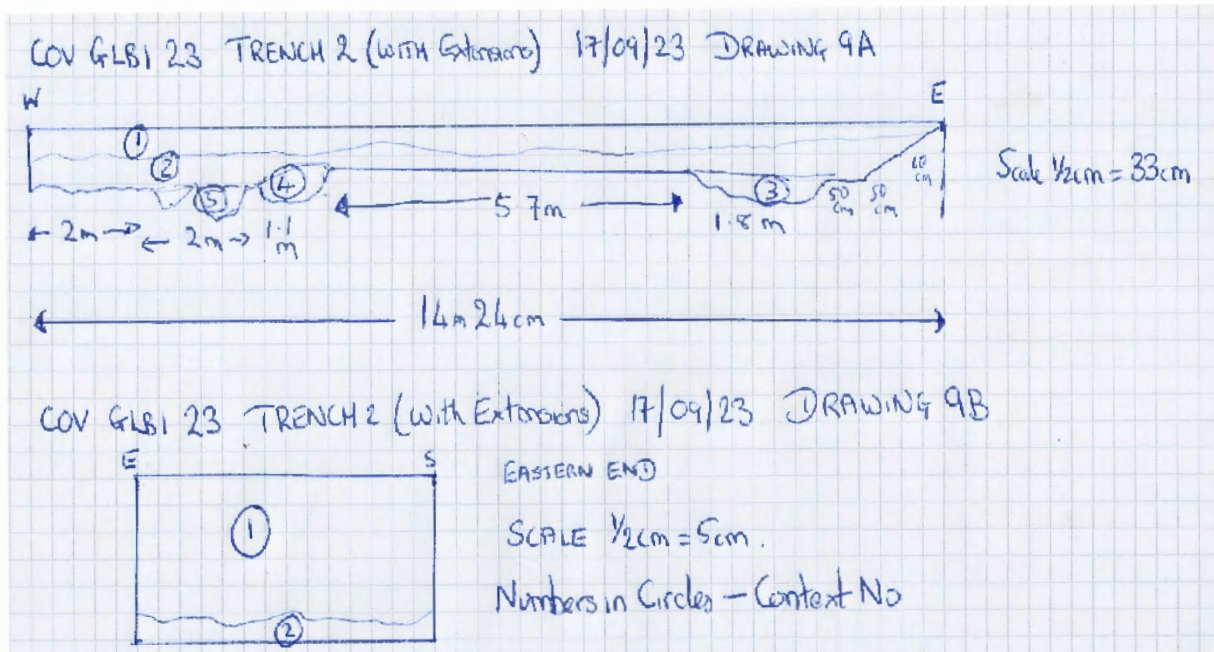


Trench 2 – Crossed the field roughly in an East to West direction with three GPS points taken

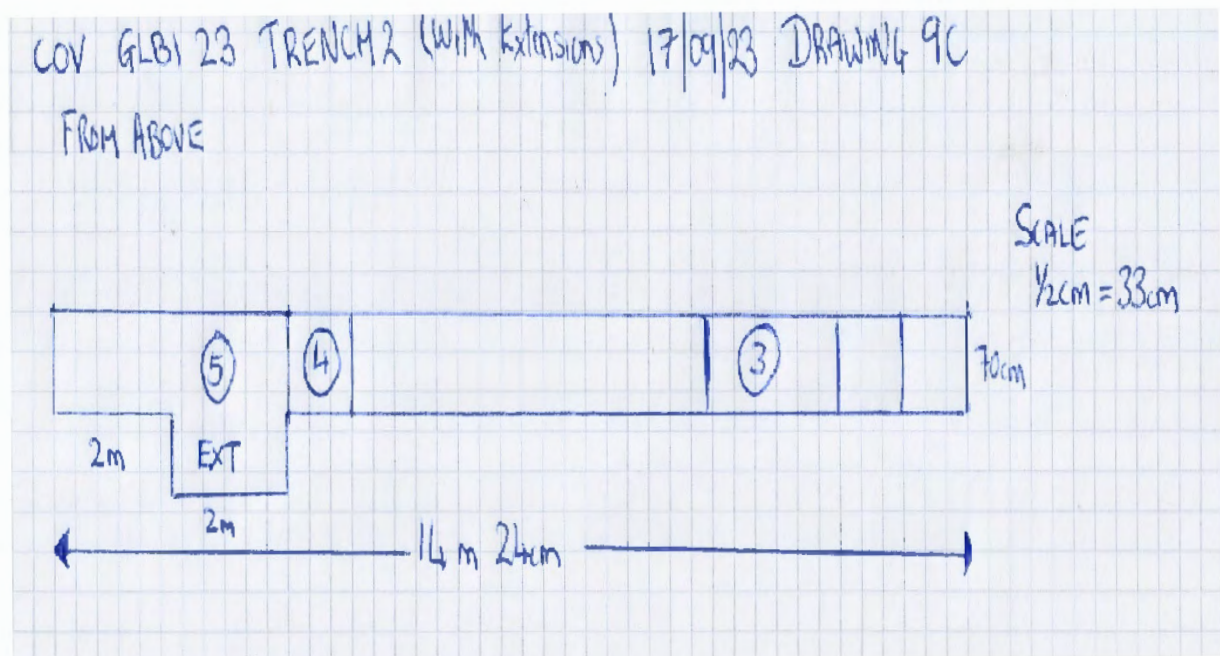
(East End – Location on Application,

Mid- Point –Location on Application,

West End - Location on Application)

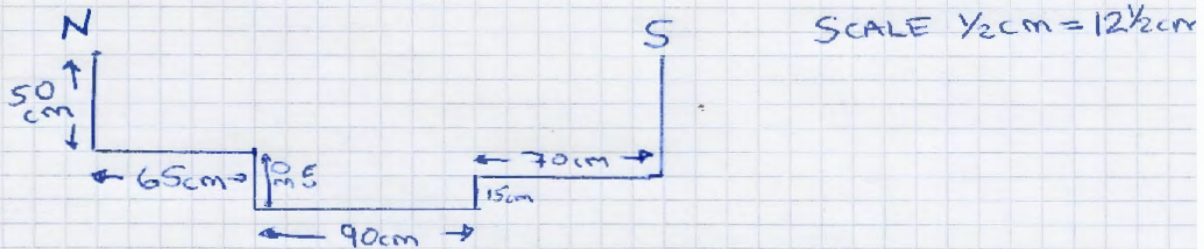


Once again finds led to the extension of the trench

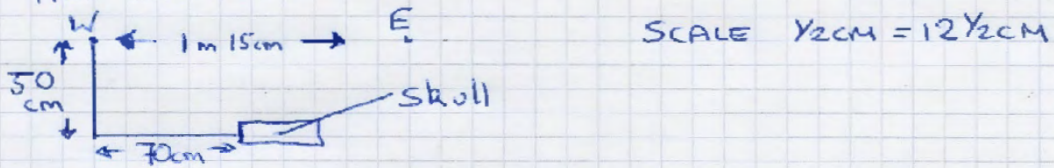


But it was the extension at the eastern end of the trench that produced the biggest find when we discovered a large section of a bovine skeleton.

COV GLBI 23 TRENCH 2 (EASTERN END EXTENSION)
 07/10/23 DRAWING 9D - THIS EXTENSION
 FLOWS North / South ALONG SIDE CONTEXT 903

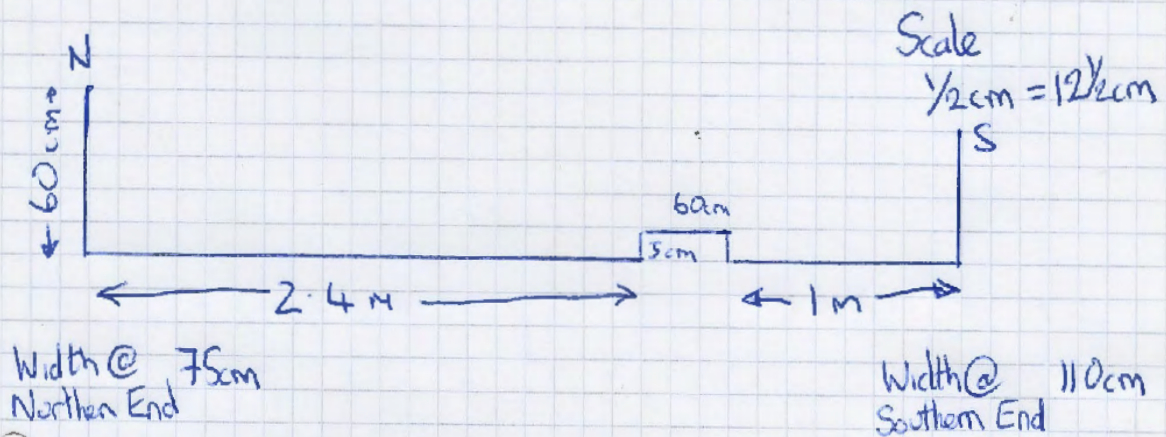


THE SKULL WAS FOUND AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE EXTENSION

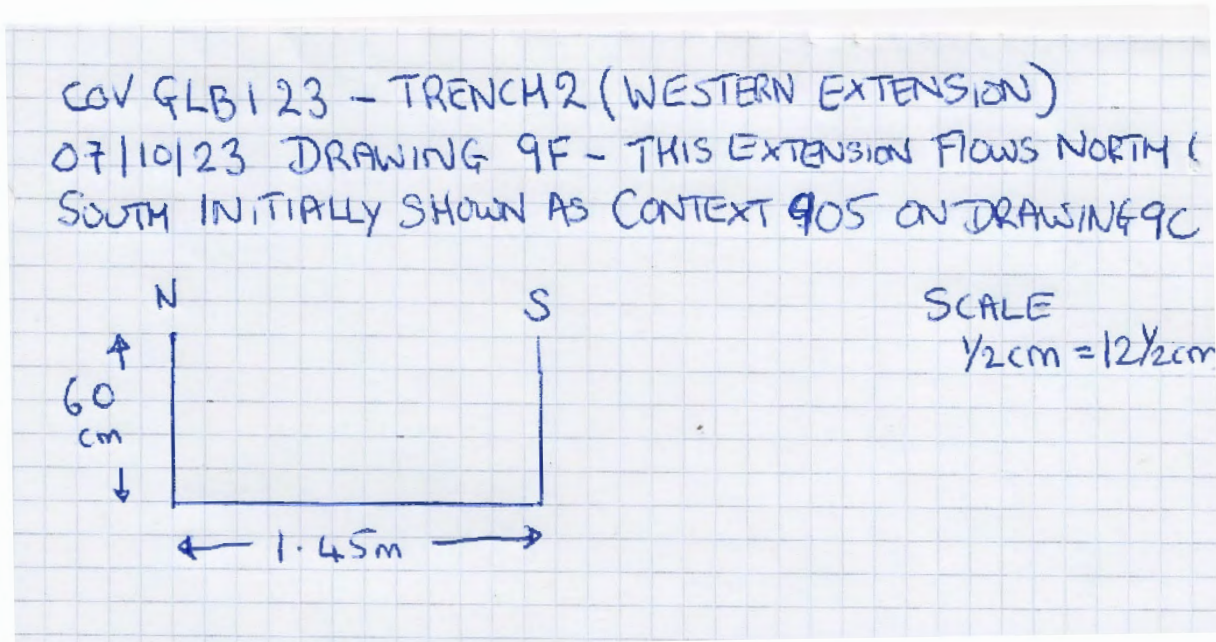


Further to the west of this trench we made a further extension, this became known as Ron's Trench

COV GLBI 23 TRENCH 2 (MIDDLE / WESTERN EXTENSION)
 07/10/23 DRAWING 9E - THIS EXTENSION FLOWS
 NORTH / SOUTH TO THE EAST OF CONTEXT 904



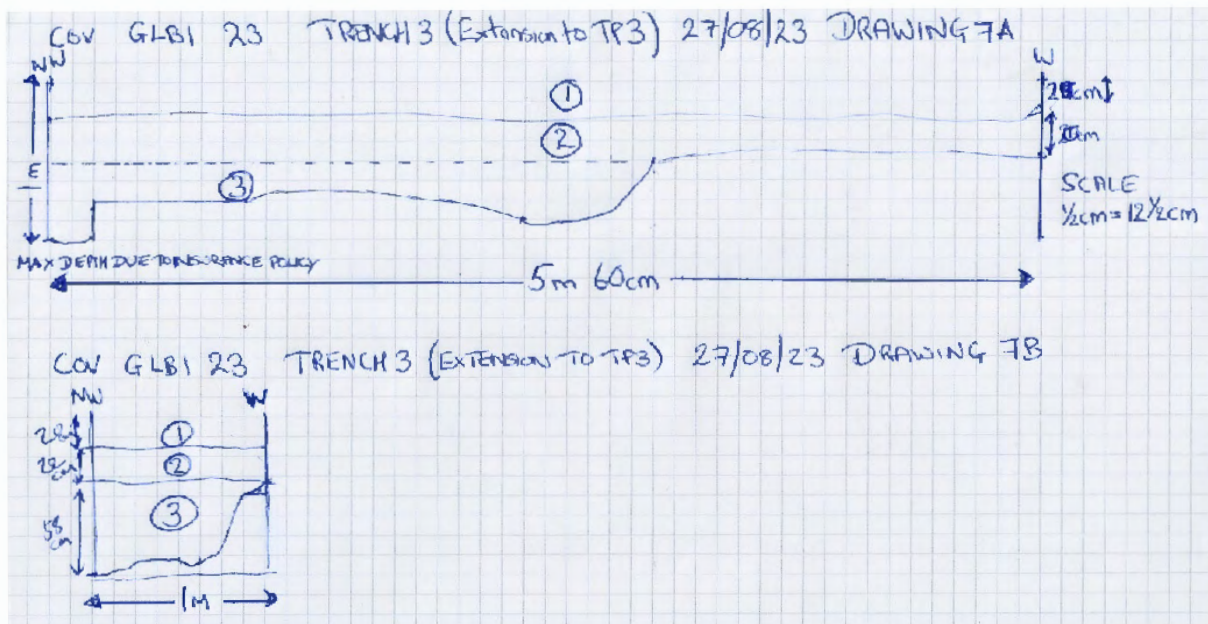
The final extension is already shown on Drawing 9C but was enhanced to cover both sides of the trench



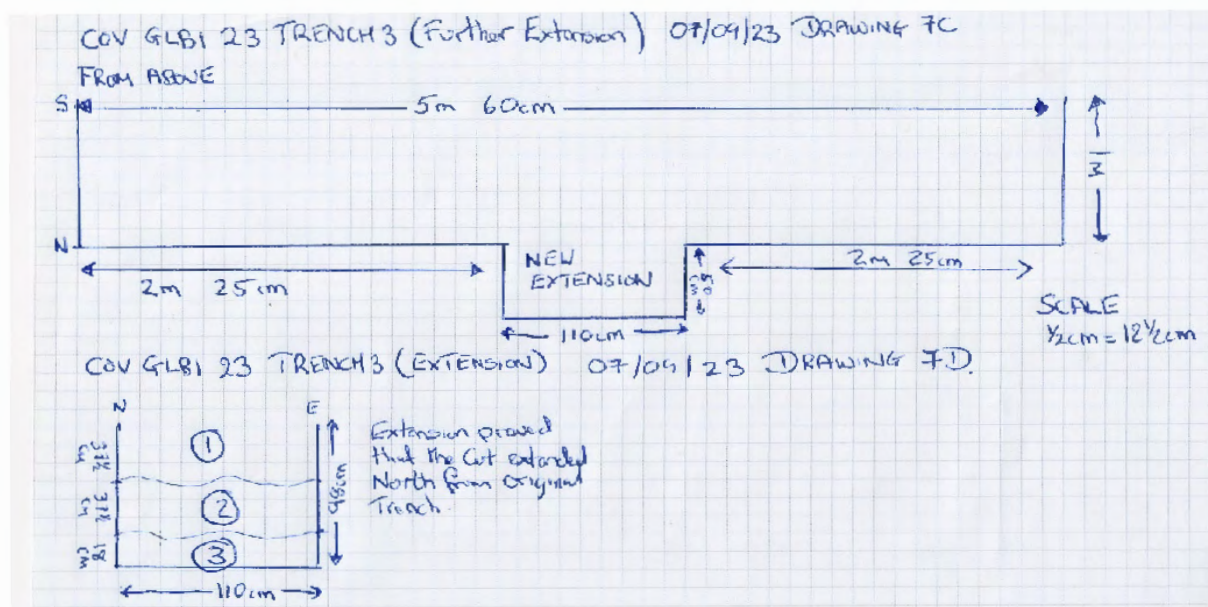
Trench 3 – Crossed the field East to West with three GPS points taken

- (East End – Location on Application,
- Mid- Point – Location on Application,
- West End - Location on Application)

Started out as Test Pit 3. It was extended into a trench when a cut was found. We followed the same cut for just over three metres getting deeper until we reached our maximum depth of 1 metre



At the mid-point of the trench a further expansion looked at taking the trench north. The same pattern of contexts was discovered.



Appendix 5 – Test Pit Photographs

Test Pit 1



Test Pit 2



Test Pit 3



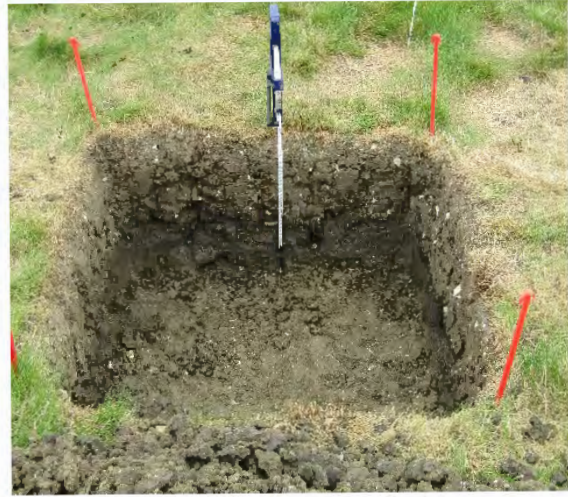
Test Pit 4



Test Pit 5



Test Pit 6



Appendix 6 – Trench Photographs

Trench 1 – Looking North



Trench 1 – looking South



Trench 2 – Looking East



Trench 2 – Western end

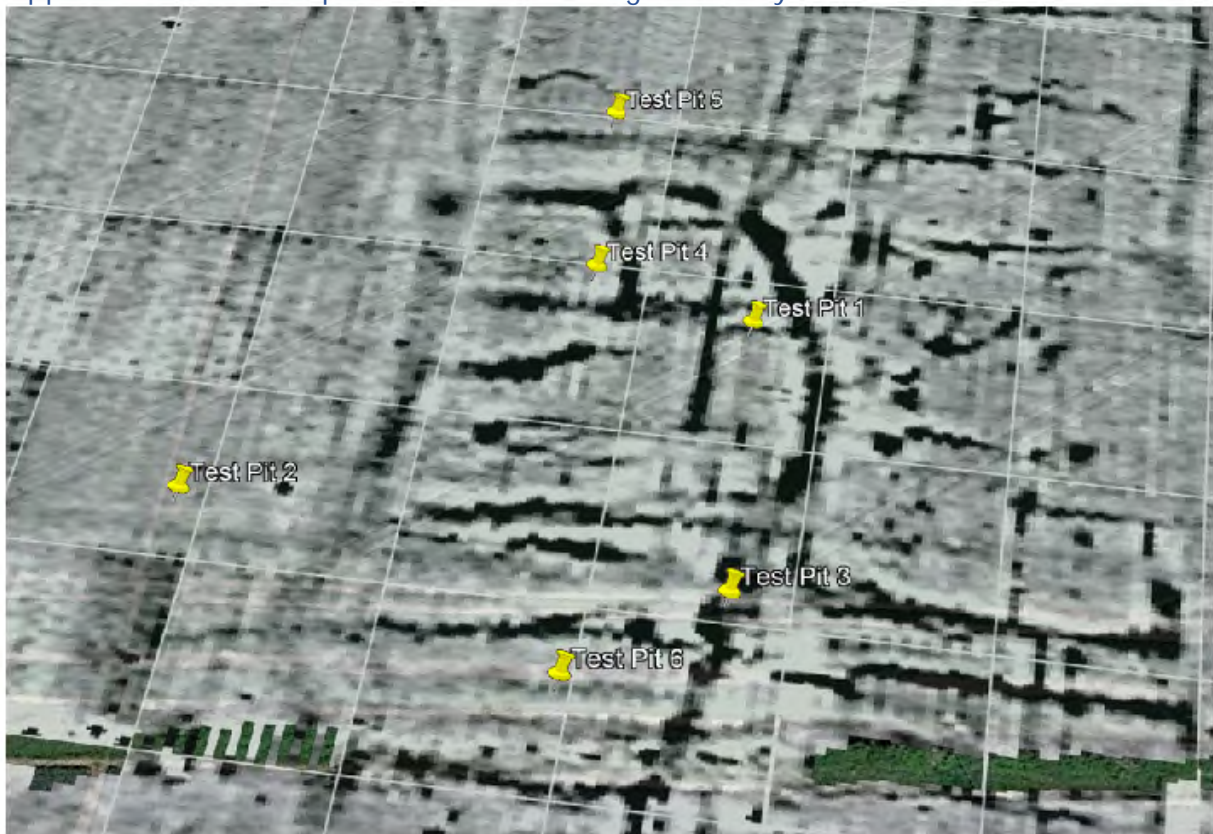


Trench 3 – Looking East – After Extension to North shown on the left of this picture



Trench 3 looking West
including Test pit 3

Appendix 7 – Test Pits plotted over 2014 Magnetometry Results



Appendix 8 – Trenches plotted over 2014 Magnetometry Results



Appendix 8 – Radiocarbon Dating Results



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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE 12 March 2024

Laboratory Code	SUERC-125097 (GU66658)		
Submitter	Robert Wishart Covington & Keyston History Group Hilymead House 2 Linden Grove Keyston, Cambridgeshire PE28 0RG		
Site Reference	COV GLB1 23		
Context Reference	Trench 2 Eastern Extension		
Sample Reference	Rib Bone 1		
Material	Bone : Unknown		
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to VPDB	-21.6 ‰	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$ relative to VCDT	-16.0 ‰
$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ relative to air	6.7 ‰	C/S ratio (Molar)	643
C/N ratio (Molar)	3.4	N/S ratio (Molar)	191
Radiocarbon Age BP	1719 ± 24		

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the SUERC AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon* 58(1) pp.9-23.

For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-cl4lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :

Checked and signed off by :

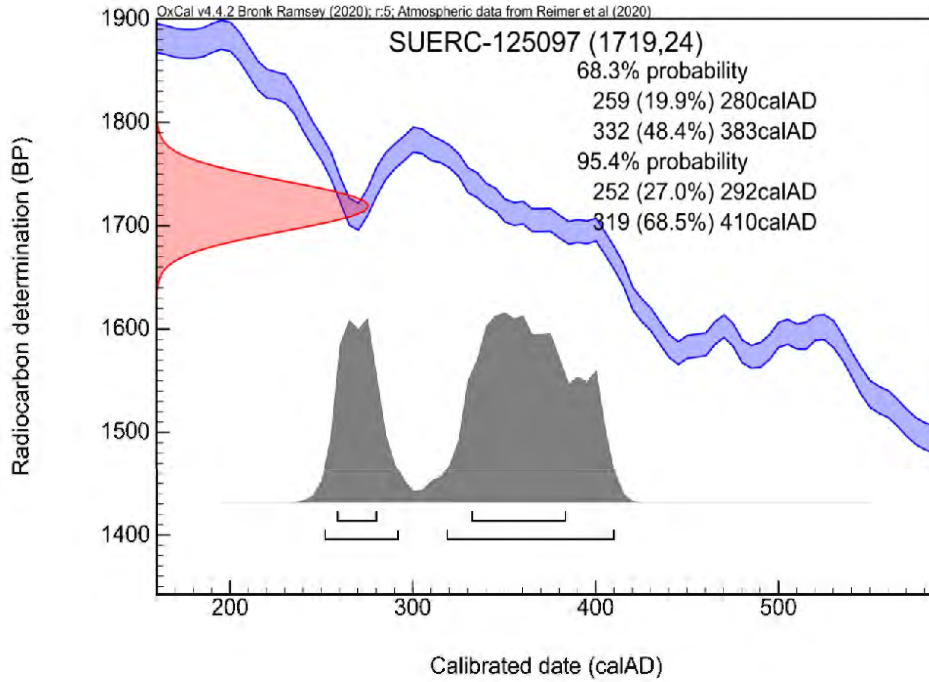


University
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The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal20 atmospheric calibration curve†

Please contact the laboratory if you wish to discuss this further.

* Bronk Ramsey (2009) *Radiocarbon* 51(1) pp. 337-60

† Reimer et al. (2020) *Radiocarbon* 62(4) pp. 723-57